

C.4422 H
BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**

FOR THE YEAR

1932

57714



BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT

upon the

**SANITARY CONDITION
AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

of the

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF BEDFORD

for the year

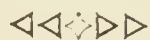
1932

by

CUTHBERT G. WELCH,

M.D. (Lond.), *Degree in State Medicine,* **D.P.H. (Oxon.)**

Medical Officer of Health.



DUNSTABLE :

PRINTED BY INDEX PUBLISHERS (DUNSTABLE) LTD.
1933.

INDEX.

	PAGE
Prefatory Remarks	5
Adoptive Acts, Bye-Laws and Regulations...	53
Adulteration of Food and Drugs	57-62
Ambulance Facilities	49
Area of County	11
Artificial Cream Act	56
Bacteriological Diagnoses	35
Births	12
Blind Welfare	59
Bromham House Colony	53
Bye-Laws and Regulations	53
Cancer	20
Causes of Death	15, 16, 17
Census (1931)	11
Clean Milk Competitions	54
Deaths	14
Dentistry	43, 29
Diseases (See " Infectious and other Diseases ")	
Dispensaries (Tuberculosis)	28
District Medical Officers of Health	10
District Medical Officers (Out-Relief)	8
Drainage and Sewerage	64
Extra Nourishment	29, 37
Factories and Workshops, Inspection of	68
Food and Drugs, Adulteration	57-62
Food Inspection	56
Health Visiting	36
Hospitals for Infectious Diseases	46
Hospitals, Public Assistance	47
Hospitals, Voluntary	49
Houses, Sanitary Inspection of	68
Housing	67
Housing Act, 1930	67
Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926... ..	68
Infant Life Protection	41
Infant Welfare Centres	36
Infantile Mortality	18
Infectious and Other Diseases :—	
Acute Polio-Myelitis	25
Cancer	20
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	25
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	23
Diphtheria	22
Encephalitis Lethargica... ..	25
Enteric Fever	23
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	26
Heart Disease	19
Influenza	22
Measles	24
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	24
Phthisis and other Tuberculous Diseases	26
Polio-Myelitis	25
Puerperal Fever	24
Puerperal Pyrexia	24
Scarlet Fever	23
Smallpox	22
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary)	26

INDEX—*continued*.

Infectious and Other Diseases — <i>continued</i> .	PAGE
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary)	31
Venereal Diseases	33
Whooping Cough	25
Inoculations (Protective)	35
Institutional Medical Officers (Public Assistance)...	8
Institutions (Public Assistance)	47
Isolation Hospitals	46
Laboratory Facilities	35
Maternal Mortality	18
Maternity and Child Welfare	36-42
Maternity Homes, etc.	37
Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-27	52
Mental Treatment Act, 1930	52
Midwives Acts	38-41
Milk, Better (Competition)	54
Milk (Condensed, Skimmed) Regulations	55-56
Milk and Dairies	53-56
Milk (Dried) Regulations	55
Milk and Cream Regulations	55-56
Mogerhanger Park Sanatorium	30
Notifiable Diseases	21
Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927	41
Nursing in the Home, Professional	38
Orthopaedic Treatment	44
Pollution of Rivers	64
Population	11, 12
Preservatives, etc., in Food Regulations	55
Public Assistance Institutions	47
Public Assistance (Medical Domiciliary Treatment)	50
Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations	55, 56
Public Health (Dried Milk) Regulations	55
Public Health Department (Staff)	7
Public Vaccinators	8
Rateable Value	11
Rats and Mice Destruction	66
Rainfall	64
Rivers, Pollution of	64
Sanatorium (Mogerhanger Park)	30
Sanitary Inspectors, List of	10
Sanitary Inspections	68
Scavenging	65
School Medical Service	42
Schools, Sanitary Inspection of	68
Senile Mortality	19
Sewerage and Drainage	64
Staff of Public Health Department	7
Still-Births	13
Tuberculosis	26-33
Tuberculosis Dispensaries	28
Tuberculosis Sanatorium	30
Vaccination Officers	9
Vaccination, Public	45
Venereal Diseases	33
Vital Statistics... ..	12
Voluntary Hospitals	49
Water Supplies	62

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF
THE BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report upon the Public Health and Sanitary circumstances of the County of Bedford for the year 1932, from which it will be seen that the standard of health has remained at a satisfactory level.

The Birth rate for the County, in common with that for the whole Country continues to fall, the rate for 1932 being the lowest ever recorded.

The Death rate for Bedfordshire continues to be satisfactorily low and is below that for the whole Country.

Smallpox of a mild type made its appearance in two areas of the County. Fortunately the steps taken prevented the two outbreaks from assuming any large proportion, and all the patients affected made satisfactory recoveries. Owing to the proximity of this County to London and other areas in which smallpox is almost endemic, it is really a remarkable circumstance that the County has been so free from this disease.

The Clerk of the Council has, as heretofore, been ever ready with his assistance and advice, and my thanks are due to the District Medical Officers for their cordial co-operation at all times.

I should like to place on record my appreciation of the good work of the whole Staff of the Public Health Department during the past year.

I have the honour to be, my Lords and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CUTHBERT G. WELCH,

County Medical Officer of Health.

SHIRE HALL, BEDFORD.

JUNE, 1933.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28913772>

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

County Medical Officer of Health :

CUTHBERT G. WELCH, M.D. (Lond.), Degree in State Medicine,
D.P.H. (Oxon).

Deputy County Medical Officer of Health and Senior Assistant School Medical Officer :

GEORGE R. PAINTON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond.).

Assistant Medical Officer (Maternity and Child Welfare) and Assistant School Medical Officer :

MARJORIE H. KING, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Edin.).

Assistant Medical Officer (Tuberculosis) (Resident) and Assistant School Medical Officer :

WILLIAM EDWARD MASHITER, M.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Camb.),
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (*Appointed 1/12/32, vice Dr. Alan Ashworth,
resigned*).

Assistant Tuberculosis Medical Officer :

GEORGE A. HAYMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

School Dentists :

C. E. MAINWARING, L.D.S.

R. B. T. DINSDALE, L.D.S.

Health Visitors and Inspectors of Midwives :

*MRS. E. H. CURTIS, S.R.N.

*MISS C. D. SMITH, S.R.N.

*MISS M. K. COAD, S.R.N.

*MRS. I. RUSSELL, S.R.N.

*MISS G. JOHN, S.R.N.

*MISS E. VITTLES, S.R.N.

*MISS E. M. HARRISON, S.R.N.

* Certified Midwife.

Dental Nurses :

MISS A. R. PECK, S.R.N.

MISS G. C. W. RIDDY, S.R.N.

Tuberculosis Nurse :

MISS E. A. TOPLEY, S.R.N.

STAFF (*continued*).*Clerical Staff :**Chief Clerk :* E. H. L. STONEBANKS.*2nd Class Clerks :* MISS D. A. HANDS and S. P. MARRIOTT.*Third Class Clerk :* K. T. WHITE.*Junior Shorthand Typist :* MISS F. H. MARKHAM.*Junior Clerks :* MISS J. K. TURNER and C. G. W. DENNING.*Dispensary Caretaker and V.D. Orderly :*A. CLAYSON (*Luton*)*Part-time V.D. Orderlies :*J. HYDE (*Luton*).*E. WOOTTON (*Bedford*)(**Appointed 1/10/32*)*Public Assistance Institutional Medical Officers and Public Vaccinators (Part time).*

DR. W. BROWN	...	...	Amphill Public Assistance Institution
DR. H. D. POLLARD	...	...	Bedford Public Assistance Institution (St. Peter's Hospital)
DR. G. BUTTERS	...	...	Kempston Children's Home
DR. F. BOLSTER	...	...	Biggleswade Public Assistance Institution, and Biggleswade Boys' and Girls' Homes
DR. J. M. O'MEARA	...	...	Luton Public Assistance Institution and Beech Hill Children's Homes
DR. W. H. SQUARE	...	...	Leighton Buzzard Public Assistance Institution.

District Medical Officers under the Poor Law Acts (Part-time), who are also part-time Public Vaccinators.

DR. W. E. C. PARRY	...	...	Amphill No. 1 District
DR. C. H. MACKLIN	...	...	Amphill No. 2 ,,
DR. A. E. STREET	...	...	Marston Moretaine and Cranfield Districts
DR. W. J. JOHNSON	...	...	Shefford and Haynes Districts
DR. J. RICHARDSON	...	...	Aspley Guise District
(Appointed 1/10/32)			
DR. H. J. SHANLEY	...	...	Shillington ,,
(Appointed 1/10/32)			
DR. R. F. M. FAWCETT	...	...	Toddington and Hockliffe Districts
DR. J. A. LEAHY	...	...	Bedford District

STAFF (*continued*).*District Medical Officers (continued)*

DR. W. H. MILLER	...	Bromham District
DR. H. M. COOMBS	...	Clapham ,,
DR. H. W. ROUND	...	Turvey ,,
DR. W. BLAYNEY	...	Harrold ,,
DR. C. J. M. LAWRENCE		Riseley and Sharnbrook Districts
DR. G. C. HUGHES	...	Great Barford District
DR. D. G. GREENFIELD	...	Podington ,,
DR. E. ROBINSON	...	Dean ,,
DR. A. H. HUDSON	...	Eaton Socon ,,
DR. E. J. CROSS	...	Little Barford ,,
DR. C. K. CROWTHER	...	Biggleswade ,,
DR. T. CAMPBELL	...	Blunham and Sandy Districts
DR. J. J. H. ANDERSON	...	Potton District
DR. M. L. FARMER	...	Arlesey ,,
DR. J. ROLLINGS	...	Barton ,,
DR. J. E. S. SMITH	...	Caddington ,,
DR. H. A. A. PARGETER		Dunstable ,,

District Medical Officers under the Poor Law Acts (Part-time) only.

DR. J. A. CLARKE	...	Hyde District
DR. J. GROGONO	...	Leighton Buzzard District
DR. J. ROBERTSON	...	Luton ,,
DR. H. O'MEARA	...	Stopsley ,,

Public Vaccinators (Part-time) only.

DR. C. M. L. COWPER	...	Leighton Buzzard District
DR. O. B. LEAN	...	Wymington District
DR. J. BIRCH	...	Luton District

*(Appointed 1/5/33)**Vaccination Officers (part time).*

<i>District</i>				<i>Name and address of Officer.</i>
AMPTHILL	...	...	...	MR. C. A. JEFFS, Ampthill
BEDFORD	...	...	...	MR. A. F. BAILEY, Bedford
BIGGLESWADE	...	...	...	MR. C. RUTT, Biggleswade
DUNSTABLE	...	...	...	MR. T. H. TAYLOR, Dunstable
EATON SOCON	...	...	...	MR. H. PATEMAN, St. Neots
LEIGHTON BUZZARD	...	...	...	MR. H. G. GLEED, Leighton Buzzard (appointed 1/4/33)
LUTON	...	...	...	MR. J. Q. CLAYTON, Luton
WOBURN	...	...	...	*See note at foot
WYMINGTON	...	...	...	MR. T. W. GINDERS, Welling- borough

*Since the resignation of Mr. M. Matthews on 1/4/33 this work is being performed temporarily by the Chief Clerk in the Public Health Department.

LIST OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH AND SANITARY INSPECTORS OF THE SEPARATE SANITARY DISTRICTS WITHIN THE COUNTY.

URBAN DISTRICTS	MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	SANITARY INSPECTOR
Ampthill ...	W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.	F. H. Williams, Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Bedford ...	G. K. Bowes, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H. ...	F. C. Haynes, Cert. R.S.I.
Biggleswade ...	H. W. Grattan, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	T. R. Howitt, M.I.M. & Cy. E. Cert. R.S.I.
Dunstable ...	H. A. A. Pargeter, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	W. F. Wilkins, M.I.M. & C.E. M.S.E., Cert. R.S.I.
Kempston ...	G. Butters, M.B., C.M. ...	P. W. Cooper, Cert. R.S.I.
Leighton Buzzard	J. Grogono, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. ...	B. H. Robjant, Cert. R.S.I.
Luton ...	W. Archibald, T.D., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. ...	A. J. Nichols, M.R.S.I.
Sandy ...	W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S., L.C.R.P., D.P.H., D.M.R.E. ...	H. Vivian James, M.S.I.A.
RURAL DISTRICTS		
Ampthill ...	W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.	L. Foster, M.I.M. & Cy.E., Cert. R.S.I.
Bedford ...	W. K. Parbury, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.M.R.E.	F. Lindley, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.
Biggleswade ...	H. W. Grattan, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	C. M. Robinson, F.S.I.A., Cert. R.S.I.
Eaton Bray ...	W. H. Square, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.M.	(Meat & Food Inspection)
Eaton Socon ...	E. J. Cross, T.D., M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.P.C.	H. A. Rolls
Luton ...	J. W. Rollings, L.S.A., L.M.S.S.A. ...	Walter Bruce
		H. Pickering, A.R.S.I., M.I.M & Cy.E.

BEDFORDSHIRE.

The area of the geographical and administrative County is 474 square miles, or 302,942 acres. Its greatest length from North to South is $36\frac{1}{2}$ miles and its greatest breadth $22\frac{1}{2}$ miles from East to West.

At the 1st April, 1932, the rateable value was £1,229,162. The produce of a penny rate was for general County purposes, £4,751. The County contains no County Boroughs but includes the three Non-County Boroughs of Bedford, Dunstable and Luton. There are in addition, five Urban Districts, and six Rural Districts, making in all fourteen Local Sanitary Areas.

THE 1931 CENSUS.

The figures contained in the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer for the year 1931 were extracted from the Preliminary Report upon the 1931 Census issued by the Registrar-General in July of that year. In January, 1933, the final Census Report was issued, and as the preliminary figures have been slightly amended, a table is inserted in this Report setting out the final results :—

ADMINISTRATIVE AREA.	ENUMERATED POPULATION, 1931.		
	PERSONS	MALES.	FEMALES.
BEDFORD ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY	220,525	106,449	114,076
Municipal Boroughs and Urban Districts ...	141,625	66,947	74,678
Amphill	2,168	1,018	1,150
Bedford M.B.	40,554	18,401	22,153
Biggleswade	5,844	2,862	2,982
Dunstable M.B.... ..	8,976	4,256	4,720
Kempston	5,390	2,740	2,650
Leighton Buzzard	7,030	3,288	3,742
Luton M.B.	68,523	32,806	35,717
Sandy	3,140	1,576	1,564
Rural Districts ...	78,900	39,502	39,398
Amphill	19,983	9,697	10,286
Bedford	21,130	10,462	10,668
Biggleswade	20,962	10,928	10,034
Eaton Bray	3,935	1,928	2,007
Eaton Socon	3,224	1,605	1,619
Luton	9,666	4,882	4,784

It will be seen that the population of the County, according to the 1931 Census, was **220,525** instead of 220,474 as provisionally reported.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION.

The aggregate resident population of the Urban and Rural Districts, as estimated for the middle of 1932 by the Registrar General, which forms the basis on which the Statistical Tables in this Report are compiled, was as follows :—

Urban Districts...	...	...	...	...	143,700
Rural Districts ...	...	...	...	...	79,630
The County	...	...	...	...	223,330

BIRTHS.

The Birth-Rate for the Administrative County during the year 1932 was 14.0 per thousand ; that for England and Wales being 15.3 per thousand.

3,140 live births were registered in the Administrative County, 146 of which were illegitimate. The birth-rates per 1,000 of the Administrative County, the Urban and Rural Districts thereof, and of England and Wales for the last five years, are given below :—

LOCALITIES.	BIRTH RATE.				
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Urban Districts	14.1	13.9	14.2	13.7	13.4
Rural Districts	15.5	16.1	15.0	15.1	15.2
Administrative County	14.7	14.7	14.5	14.2	14.0
England & Wales	16.7	16.3	16.3	15.8	15.3

It will be observed that there has been a further decline in the Birth-rate for England and Wales during the past year, and that the Birth-rate in Bedfordshire has also declined.

Natural increase of population is the excess of births over deaths and is usually expressed per thousand of the population. In Bedfordshire the natural increase was 2.2 per thousand in 1932 ; that for England and Wales being 3.3 per thousand.

The following Table gives the birth statistics for the County Districts for the year 1932 :—

URBAN DISTRICTS	TOTAL BIRTHS.	LEGITI-MATE.	ILLEGITI-MATE.	TOTAL BIRTH RATE.
Amphill	27	26	1	12.0
Bedford... ..	503	470	33	12.2
Biggleswade	96	91	5	16.0
Dunstable	133	128	5	14.1
Kempston	67	65	2	12.2
Leighton Buzzard	103	96	7	14.8
Luton	962	924	38	13.8
Sandy	40	40	0	12.6
Aggregate of Urban District	1,931	1,840	91	13.4

RURAL DISTRICTS.	TOTAL BIRTHS.	LEGITI-MATE.	ILLEGITI-MATE.	TOTAL BIRTH RATE.
Amphill	278	261	17	13.9
Bedford	317	303	14	14.8
Biggleswade	335	322	13	15.7
Eaton Bray	56	54	2	14.4
Eaton Socon	52	50	2	16.2
Luton	171	164	7	17.1
Aggregate of Rural Districts	1,209	1,154	55	15.2

STILL BIRTHS.

Particulars of Still Births registered in the County during the last four years, are set out in the following Table :—

		TOTAL.		LEGITIMATE		ILLEGITIMATE.	
		Males.	Females.	Males	Females	Males	Females
Urban Districts	1929	45	35	44	33	1	2
	1930	40	37	36	36	4	1
	1931	35	44	30	38	5	6
	1932	36	39	36	36	—	3
Rural Districts	1929	28	19	26	18	2	1
	1930	17	25	14	23	3	2
	1931	28	15	25	14	3	1
	1932	29	9	27	7	2	2
Whole County	1929	73	54	70	51	3	3
	1930	57	62	50	59	7	3
	1931	63	59	55	52	8	7
	1932	65	48	63	43	2	5

DEATHS.

The Death-Rate for the Administrative County during the year 1932 was 11.8 per thousand ; that for England and Wales being 12.0 per thousand.

It will be observed that the death-rate for Bedfordshire is below that for England and Wales.

The total number of deaths registered in the Administrative County, after adjustment for outward and inward transfers, during 1932, was 2,640, compared with 2,627 in 1931.

The death-rates per 1,000 for the Administrative County and the Urban and Rural Districts thereof, and for England and Wales, were as follows :—

LOCALITIES.	GENERAL DEATH RATE.				
	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
Urban Districts	10.7	12.7	10.5	11.4	11.2
Rural Districts	11.8	13.6	11.8	12.8	12.9
Administrative County	11.1	13.0	10.9	11.9	11.8
England & Wales	11.7	13.4	11.4	12.3	12.0

The recorded Death-rates for the Sanitary Districts in Bedfordshire for 1931 and 1932 are given below :—

Urban Sanitary Districts.	Death Rate.		Rural Sanitary Districts.	Death Rate.	
	1931.	1932.		1931.	1932.
Amphill	10.6	14.7	Amphill	13.2	11.9
Bedford	12.5	12.2	Bedford	13.4	14.3
Biggleswade	12.2	14.5	Biggleswade	13.4	12.8
Dunstable	11.4	11.2	Eaton Bray	13.2	15.2
Kempston	8.9	12.7	Eaton Socon	10.3	14.0
Leighton Buzzard...	12.8	12.5	Luton	10.3	11.1
Luton	10.7	9.8			
Sandy	13.1	12.9			

CAUSES OF DEATH	AGGREGATE OF URBAN DISTRICTS										AGGREGATE OF RURAL DISTRICTS									
	At all ages	under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and upwards	At all ages	under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and under 75	75 and upwards
Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	11	2	2	4	2	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	3	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	9	6	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza	66	3	4	1	—	2	9	15	9	23	37	3	—	1	—	—	4	10	10	9
Encephalitis Lethargica	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Resp. System...	99	—	—	—	—	21	41	32	4	1	37	—	—	—	—	14	14	9	—	—
Other Tuberculous Diseases	20	2	—	—	—	1	2	4	2	1	16	2	2	4	—	1	5	2	—	—
Syphilis	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Paralysis of the Insane,	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tabes Dorsalis	10	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Cancer, Malignant Disease	233	—	—	—	—	2	14	109	55	53	144	—	—	—	—	—	4	51	48	41
Diabetes	20	—	—	—	—	1	—	9	3	6	17	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	5	8
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	101	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	32	44	68	—	—	—	—	—	1	15	16	36
Heart Disease	263	—	—	—	—	4	15	68	87	89	200	—	—	—	1	1	8	35	69	86
Aneurysm	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	86	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	31	45	68	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	21	40
Bronchitis	60	4	—	—	—	1	1	4	12	38	49	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	12	34
Pneumonia (all forms)	73	7	6	1	—	4	14	21	7	13	39	5	1	4	—	3	3	15	2	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	14	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	2	6	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	5
Peptic Ulcer	18	—	—	—	—	1	3	9	3	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—
Diarrhoea, etc.	15	4	3	—	—	—	3	4	1	—	8	3	1	1	1	—	2	1	—	—
Appendicitis	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	6	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	34	1	—	—	—	1	6	10	3	10	13	2	—	—	—	—	3	10	6	—
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	53	—	—	—	—	2	9	18	14	10	24	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—
Puerperal Sepsis	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	5	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—
Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc....	62	59	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	32	31	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Senility	115	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	15	98	86	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	14	71
Suicide	28	—	—	—	—	—	4	19	4	—	12	—	—	—	—	1	3	6	2	—
Other Violence	43	2	—	—	—	5	9	11	6	6	37	2	—	3	3	5	9	4	6	5
Other Defined Diseases...	122	10	1	—	—	4	14	36	27	25	88	6	1	3	6	5	9	17	17	24
Causes ill-defined or unknown...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—
TOTALS : ALL CAUSES ...	1608	103	16	19	26	51	158	431	328	476	1032	59	9	17	13	33	84	206	236	375

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS OF
THE COUNTY OF BEDFORD, 1932.

CAUSES OF DEATH	ADMINISTRATIVE AREAS														TOTALS	
	Amphill		Bedford		Biggleswade		Dunstable Borough	Eaton Bray Rural	Eaton Socon Rural	Kempston Urban	Leighton Buzzard Urban	Luton		Sandy Urban	U.D's, 1932	R.D's, 1932
	Urban	Rural	Borough	Rural	Urban	Rural						Borough	Rural			
Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2
Measles	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	10	1	—	11	5
Scarlet Fever	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	1	3	1	3	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	9	3
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—
Influenza	2	10	28	7	6	16	3	2	1	5	1	20	1	1	66	37
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1
Tuberculosis of Resp. System...	1	8	25	10	6	10	4	1	1	4	5	52	7	2	99	37
Other Tuberculous Diseases	—	3	6	1	1	8	1	1	1	1	—	11	2	—	20	16
Syphilis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	3	1
General Paralysis of the Insane																
Tabes Dorsalis	—	1	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	1	10	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease	4	41	70	39	14	36	17	10	4	13	16	93	14	6	233	144
Diabetes	—	4	6	3	1	5	4	2	1	—	1	8	2	—	20	17
Cerebral Haemorrhage, &c.	4	19	25	18	4	7	8	10	3	4	8	46	11	2	101	68
Heart Disease	5	42	94	73	12	50	11	11	7	7	9	118	17	7	263	200
Aneurysm	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	18	54	30	2	15	3	1	1	4	3	16	3	2	86	68
Bronchitis	3	7	18	20	3	7	4	2	8	6	5	19	5	2	60	49
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	6	20	15	7	13	7	—	1	2	3	30	4	1	73	39
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	4	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	1	1	7	—	—	14	11
Peptic Ulcer	—	2	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	12	2	—	18	6
Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)	—	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	—	7	4
Appendicitis	—	—	4	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	5	3	—	11	5
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	6	3
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	—	—	5	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	6	6
Other Digestive Diseases	—	5	9	3	2	4	1	1	1	2	4	22	3	2	42	17
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	7	19	5	2	9	6	—	—	4	5	12	3	4	53	24
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Other Puerperal Causes	—	1	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	5	3
Congenital Debility, Premature																
Birth, Malformations, etc....	2	6	15	8	3	11	4	2	—	2	1	35	5	—	62	32
Senility	2	21	9	18	7	22	11	7	8	4	8	62	10	2	115	86
Suicide	—	3	7	3	1	5	2	—	1	1	2	15	—	—	28	12
Other Violence	—	6	9	16	1	6	4	4	1	3	4	20	4	2	43	37
Other Defined Diseases... ..	2	16	44	24	8	32	7	3	3	3	7	45	10	6	122	88
Causes ill-defined or unknown...	1	2	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	7	4
TOTALS : ALL CAUSES	33	238	502	306	87	273	105	59	45	70	87	683	111	41	1608	103

A comparative statement showing the chief causes of death in 1931 and 1932 is set out below :—

CAUSE OF DEATH.						1931	1932
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	478	463
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	362	377
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	150	169
Arterio-sclerosis and other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	159	156
Tuberculosis (pulmonary)	...	...	...	...	...	164	136
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	119	112
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	137	109
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	94	103
TOTAL						1,663	1,625

As in the previous year, the above-named causes of death were responsible for more than half the deaths in the County during 1932.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

This is calculated as the proportion of deaths of children under one year of age to every 1,000 live births and forms the record known as the rate of infantile mortality.

The death-rates per 1,000 of the live births for the Administrative County, the Urban and Rural Districts thereof, and for England and Wales for the last five years are given below :—

LOCALITIES.	INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.				
	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Urban Districts	41.3	50.9	42.5	58.0	53.3
Rural Districts	55.6	51.8	52.8	42.8	48.8
Administrative County	47.0	51.2	46.3	52.3	51.6
England & Wales	65.0	74.0	60.0	66.0	65.0

Eleven of the deaths were of illegitimate children. These furnished a rate of infantile mortality of 75.3 per thousand illegitimate live births as compared with 76.3 in 1931.

The deaths of infants under one year of age amount to 6.1 per cent of the total number of deaths at all ages, as against 6.2 per cent in the preceding year.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The number of deaths occurring from accidents and diseases due to pregnancy and parturition was 11, three of these deaths being attributed to puerperal sepsis.

The following table shows the maternal death-rate for the County, compared with that of England and Wales, for the last three years :—

	Year.	Live Births Registered.	No. of Maternal Deaths.	Rates per 1,000 Live Births registered.		
				Puerperal Sepsis.	Other Puerperal Causes.	Total Puerperal Mortality.
Bedfordshire ...	1930	3,127	8	0.95	1.59	2.55
	1931	3,154	12	1.26	2.53	3.80
	1932	3,140	11	0.95	2.54	3.50
England & Wales	1930	648,811	2,854	1.92	2.48	4.40
	1931	632,081	2,601	1.66	2.45	4.11
	1932	613,972	2,587	1.61	2.63	4.24

SENILE MORTALITY.

The following Table shows the senile mortality in the Urban and Rural Districts, as indicated by the percentage of deaths over 65 years of age to total deaths :—

LOCALITIES.		PERCENTAGE TO TOTAL DEATHS, 1932.
Urban Districts	...	50.0
Rural Districts	...	59.2
The County		53.6

The many persons dying at over 65 years of age is evidence of the fact that a high proportion of the population survives to a good age.

HEART DISEASE.

The deaths from heart disease showed a slight decrease. It is the chief cause of death in Bedfordshire, as elsewhere. 85.5 per cent of the deaths occurred in persons over the age of 55.

The following are the death rates from heart disease for 1932 in Bedfordshire :—

Urban Districts	1.83	per thousand of population
Rural Districts	2.51	„ „
Whole County	2.07	„ „

The real origin of many of these deaths, and of an appreciable amount of invalidity through life is rheumatism in childhood, which damages the heart. This important fact is becoming more generally realised and measures both for prevention and treatment are in operation throughout the Country. Exposure, inadequate sustenance, more especially insufficient clothing, particularly in the matter of boots, and ill-ventilated and damp living and sleeping rooms, are all factors which may predispose to this disease in childhood.

CANCER.

In the administrative County 377 deaths were certified in 1932 as due to Cancer or other malignant disease, as against 362 in 1931. 81.4 per cent. of the deaths occurred in persons over the age of 55.

Apart from the figures for Bedford Borough, Bedford Rural, Biggleswade Rural, Eaton Socon Rural, Leighton Buzzard Urban and Sandy Urban, which show slight decreases, the small increase over the previous year's total is fairly evenly distributed over the remaining Districts.

The following table gives the mean figures for the last four quinquennial periods and also the figures for 1932 :—

DISTRICTS.	MEAN OF 5 YEARS 1912-1916	MEAN OF 5 YEARS 1917-1921	MEAN OF 5 YEARS 1922-1926	MEAN OF 5 YEARS 1927-1931	1932
URBAN :—					
Ampthill ...	3	5	4	5	4
Bedford ...	41	52	54	67	70
Biggleswade	10	8	11	9	14
Dunstable ...	11	14	14	17	17
Kempston ...	5	6	4	10	13
Leighton Buzzard ...	11	9	9	12	16
Luton ...	48	52	71	87	93
Sandy ...	<i>(Included in Biggleswade Rural prior to 1927)</i>			7	6
Totals	129	146	167	214	233
RURAL :—					
Ampthill ...	29	30	35	36	41
Bedford ...	29	26	34	37	39
Biggleswade	29	33	41	38	36
Eaton Bray	5	7	4	5	10
Eaton Socon	4	7	5	5	4
Luton ...	9	13	14	11	14
Totals	105	116	133	132	144
Grand Totals	234	262	300	346	377

The death-rates per thousand of the population living for the Administrative County and the Urban and Rural Districts thereof, and for England and Wales, were as follows :—

	DEATH RATE.	
	1931.	1932.
Urban Districts ...	1.54	1.62
Rural Districts ...	1.83	1.80
Administrative County	1.64	1.68
England and Wales ...	1.48	1.51

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifications of cases of Infectious Disease received during the year 1932,
under Article 14 (2) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926.

	Administrative Areas														
	Amphill		Bedford		Biggleswade		Dunstable Urban	Eaton Bray Rural	Eaton Socon Rural	Kempston Urban	Leighton Buzzard Urban	Luton		Sandy Urban	TOTALS
	Urban	Rural	Borough	Rural	Urban	Rural						Borough	Rural		
Small-pox	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	48	1	—	56
Scarlet Fever	13	21	130	23	13	18	7	6	8	1	13	72	6	12	343
Diphtheria including Mem- branous Croup	4	4	5	4	—	6	2	1	—	—	10	27	2	—	65
Enteric Fever (Typhoid and Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	10
Pneumonia	4	15	95	30	12	62	2	1	7	4	4	30	9	—	275
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Polio-Myelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Polio-Encephalitis...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3
Dysentery... ..	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	—	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	8
Erysipelas	1	—	12	3	—	8	3	1	2	—	2	18	2	2	54
Puerperal Fever	—	1	2	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	3	—	2	2	1	1	1	—	—	5	—	—	15
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1	9	38	13	9	19	12	—	3	5	8	78	6	1	202
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	4	6	4	1	5	1	2	1	—	1	11	—	1	37
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	23	64	300	78	37	133	28	12	23	10	39	298	26	17	1088

When this table is compared with that of the previous year it will be seen that there was a very marked decrease in the prevalence of Diphtheria. In 1931 the number of cases of diphtheria notified was 147, and in 1930, 346. The other noteworthy decrease is in the number of cases of tuberculosis notified during the year. The number notified last year was the lowest on record. Particulars with regard to the outbreak of small pox are given below.

Chicken pox was made temporarily notifiable in certain areas of the County and in all 377 cases were notified.

INFLUENZA

Influenza of a rather more severe type than was the case in the previous year, became prevalent towards the end of the year, and was the cause of 103 deaths, as compared with 94 in 1931. The County death-rate from influenza was 0.46 per thousand ; that for England and Wales being 0.32 per thousand. There can be no doubt that a considerable number of the deaths certified as due to pneumonia, bronchitis, and heart disease followed attacks of influenza.

SMALLPOX.

As will be seen from the Table of Notifiable Diseases on the preceding page 56 cases of Smallpox occurred in the County during 1932. The disease, which was of a mild type, first made its appearance in the Borough of Luton on the 8th February, 1932. Forty-eight cases occurred in the Borough and all were treated in the Luton Smallpox Hospital. There was one case in the Parish of Kensworth in the Luton Rural District, and arrangements were made for this case to be treated in the Bedford Smallpox Hospital.

There was also a minor outbreak of seven cases in the Parish of Maulden in the Ampthill Rural District, the first case being discovered at the end of March, and the last in September.

As a precautionary measure, Chicken Pox was made a notifiable disease for a period of twelve months in the Ampthill Urban and Rural Districts and the Urban District of Sandy.

The outbreaks of Smallpox at Luton and in the Ampthill Rural District are fully dealt with in the Annual Reports for 1932 of the Medical Officers of Health for these two areas.

DIPHTHERIA

65 cases of Diphtheria were notified in the Administrative County during 1932 as against 147 in 1931. There were only two deaths (both of which occurred in the Borough of Luton) as com-

pared with 9 in the previous year, representing a death-rate of 0.01 :—

DISTRICTS.	DEATH RATE.				
	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Urban Districts	0.10	0.05	0.06	0.03	0.01
Rural Districts	0.09	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.00
The County ...	0.10	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.01

The death-rate for England and Wales for 1932 was 0.06.

SCARLET FEVER

There were 5 deaths from Scarlet Fever in the Administrative County in 1932 ; 3 in the Borough of Bedford, 1 in the Ampthill Rural District, and 1 in the Biggleswade Rural District.

DISTRICTS.	DEATH RATE.				
	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Urban Districts	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.02
Rural Districts	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.02
The County ...	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.02

The death-rate for England and Wales in 1932 was 0.01.

The disease was somewhat more prevalent in Bedfordshire during 1932 than in the previous year. 343 cases were notified as against 301 in 1931.

ENTERIC FEVER

(including Typhoid and Paratyphoid).

There were 10 cases of Enteric Fever notified as against 7 in 1931. There were 4 deaths from this condition in the County during 1932, 2 in the Rural District of Biggleswade, 1 in the Borough of Bedford and 1 in the Borough of Luton.

DISTRICTS.	DEATH RATE.				
	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Urban Districts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Rural Districts	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02
The County ...	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02

The death-rate for England and Wales in 1932 was again 0.01.

PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

There were three deaths from Puerperal Sepsis in the Administrative County in 1932. The death-rate, expressed as a rate per 1,000 registered births, was 0.92 ; taking the Country as a whole the rate was 1.54.

During the year 15 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified and 7 cases of Puerperal Fever as against 22 and 7 respectively in 1931.

In accordance with Article 5 of the Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926, the District Medical Officer of Health is required to forward a copy of every notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia received by him, within 24 hours of receipt, to the County Medical Officer of Health.

Whenever a doctor is called in for a rise in temperature it is the duty of the midwife immediately to ascertain the doctor's diagnosis of the case, and if there is the slightest suspicion of sepsis, the midwife must notify the County Medical Officer in accordance with Rules E. 6 and 23 of the Central Midwives Board, and take the necessary steps for proper disinfection before attending any other maternity cases.

In many cases, of course, puerperal pyrexia does not mean puerperal fever or sepsis and discretion is necessary.

MEASLES

There were sixteen deaths from Measles in the Administrative County during 1932 ; representing a Death Rate for the County of .07. Eleven of these deaths occurred in children under five years of age.

DISTRICTS.	DEATH RATE.				
	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Urban Districts	0.06	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.07
Rural Districts	0.04	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.06
The County ...	0.05	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.07

The death-rate for England and Wales in 1932 was 0.08.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM

Eight cases of this disease, which is one of the chief causes of blindness, were notified during the year—as compared with 9 during the preceding year. All the infants received prompt treatment.

The duty of notifying a case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum is placed solely upon the medical practitioner in attendance upon the case. At the same time an obligation is laid upon the Medical Officer of Health of a Local Sanitary Authority to forward a copy of every notification which he receives under the Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926, to the County Medical Officer of Health, within 24 hours after the receipt of the notification. These Regulations *do not* relieve midwives of their duty under Rule E. 21 (5) of the Central Midwives Board of calling in medical aid to a case of "inflammation of, or discharge from, the eyes, however slight."

Treatment to be effective must be thorough and continuous, and the County Council has directed that in cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, the services of the Health Visitor shall, wherever possible, be made available for daily visits to the patients; but where this is impossible, the County Medical Officer of Health, shall, in consultation with the medical man in charge of the case, make such arrangements as may be possible for the carrying out of the prescribed medical treatment, or for removal to hospital.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

There were four deaths from this disease in the Administrative County during 1932.

ACUTE POLIO-MYELITIS.

There were no deaths from acute Polio-myelitis in the County in 1932.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

There were three deaths from this disease in the Administrative County in 1932.

WHOOPING COUGH.

There were 12 deaths from Whooping Cough in the Administrative County in 1932; representing a Death Rate for the County of .05. All the deaths occurred in children under five years of age.

DISTRICTS.	DEATH RATE.				
	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Urban Districts	0.09	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.06
Rural Districts	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.03
The County ...	0.08	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.05

The death rate for England and Wales in 1932 was 0.07.

DIARRHOEA AND ENTERITIS.

There were only 11 deaths from these causes among children under two years of age. The death-rate is expressed as the proportion which the deaths under two years of age from this disease form to a thousand live births. For the County the rate is 3.5, which compares favourably with the rate for England and Wales (6.6).

The protection of food from flies and dust ; cleanliness in the home and feeding utensils ; the covering and frequent removal of household rubbish, would save many of the lives lost.

PHTHISIS AND OTHER TUBERCULOUS DISEASES.

There were 172 deaths registered from this cause in the Administrative County in 1932, being 6.5 per cent of the total number of deaths from all causes, as compared with the previous year's total of 187 and 7.1 per cent respectively.

The following table shows the death-rates per 1,000 population from Phthisis for the County and the Urban and Rural Districts :—

DISTRICTS.	Phthisis Death Rate per Thousand				
	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Urban Districts	0.86	0.74	0.71	0.79	0.69
Rural Districts	0.45	0.36	0.78	0.64	0.46
Administrative County	0.77	0.61	0.73	0.74	0.61

The Phthisis death-rate for England and Wales in 1932 was 0.68.

The County death-rate from Tuberculosis (all forms) per thousand of the population was 0.77, that for the combined Urban Districts being 0.83 and that for the combined Rural Districts being 0.66.

The following new cases of tuberculosis were notified during 1932 :—

Pulmonary	Males	103	
	Females	99	
		—	202
Non-Pulmonary	Males	18	
	Females	19	
		—	37
			— 239

Compared with 1931, these figures show a decrease of 38 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and a decrease of 33 cases of Non-Pulmonary

Tuberculosis ; indeed, there were fewer cases of tuberculosis notified during 1932 than in any other year since 1912 when tuberculosis was made a notifiable disease.

The following table shows the age periods of new cases and all deaths from the disease in the Administrative County during 1932 :—

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES NOTIFIED				DEATHS			
	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY		PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
1	1	—	4	2	—	—	6	3
5	5	3	6	3	—	—	2	2
10	1	2	4	1	—	—	3	—
15	9	12	—	2	2	4	1	1
20	15	23	1	3	8	21	1	—
25	28	22	1	5	19	21	1	2
35	20	20	—	1	7	6	2	4
45	11	9	—	2	21	12	—	—
55	10	2	—	—	6	5	1	3
65 and upwards	3	6	—	—	2	2	1	1
TOTALS ...	103	99	18	19	65	71	20	16

43 other cases (23 males and 20 females) came to the notice of your Medical Officer other than by notification as required by the Regulations, *e.g.*, Death Returns, etc.

It is scarcely necessary to direct attention to the importance in the interest of all concerned, of an early diagnosis and notification of this disease. Where a definite diagnosis of a suspected case is difficult, the Tuberculosis Officer appointed under the County Tuberculosis scheme is available for consultation, and full facilities are provided for assistance in diagnosis.

If in any particular case, the practitioner considers that the circumstances are such as to render it unnecessary or contrary to the interests of the patient for the home to be visited by an Official Medical Officer or his Assistant, any such visits would be dispensed with by arrangement with the Officers concerned.

As in the previous year, approximately 70 per cent. of the new cases notified were examined by the Council's Tuberculosis Officers.

The number of cases remaining on the Register of Notifications on December 31st, 1932, was 1,711 pulmonary (805 males and 906 females) and 673 non-pulmonary (340 males and 333 females) making a total of 2,384.

The total number on the Registers on the last day of the previous year was 2,367.

These figures show that approximately 10 per 1,000 of the population of Bedfordshire were known to be suffering from tuberculosis last year.

Dispensaries.

The Dispensaries continue to be well attended, both by patients in need of supervision and others seeking advice as to their health. The number of old patients visiting the Dispensaries for periodical examination is highly satisfactory, thus greatly helping in the keeping of an accurate Register of Patients, since all cases are reviewed each year as to progress, fitness for work, etc.

The Dispensaries are open on the following days in each week and between the times stated :—

Dispensary at	Day	Time
61, Harpur Street, Bedford ...	Thursday ...	10.30—12.30
St. Andrew's Rooms, Biggleswade	Tuesday ...	11—1
17, Church Street, Luton ...	Tuesday (Children)	12—1
	„ (Men)	2—5
	Thursday (Women)	2.30—5

On January 1st, 1932, the total number of names on the Registers of the three Dispensaries was 1,367

During the year the following cases were added :—

“ Lost sight of ” cases returned 15
From other Counties 10

New Cases examined and found to be :—

Definitely Tuberculous 159
Doubtfully Tuberculous 5
Non-tuberculous 423

Contacts examined and found to be :—

Definitely Tuberculous 3
Non-tuberculous 156

2,138

Of this number 787 were written off for the following reasons :—

Recovered... .. 26
Non-tuberculous 584
Transferred to other Counties or “ Lost sight of ” 68
Dead (all causes) 109

787

1,351

The number of cases remaining on the Registers at the end of 1932 was therefore 1,351 classified as follows :—

DIAGNOSIS								
NOT COMPLETED			PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Children</i>
—	4	1	421	496	131	55	82	161

The number of attendances at the Dispensaries during 1932 (including contacts) was 3,096 and 3,487 visits were paid to the homes of patients by the Tuberculosis Nurse and the Council's Health Visitors.

During the year 345 consultations took place with medical practitioners, 22 of which were at the homes of the patients, and in addition 381 visits were paid to patients at their homes by the Tuberculosis Officers.

570 specimens of sputum were examined.

391 Domiciliary Reports on Progress (Form G.P. 36) were received during the year from Panel practitioners with regard to insured persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The County Dentists continue to visit the Sanatorium once a fortnight, to attend those patients who are found to be in need of dental treatment.

One patient received Finsen light treatment at the London Hospital.

As in previous years, the Ministry of Pensions have made use of the services of your County Medical Officer as Tuberculosis Referee for the Bedfordshire area. Cases have been referred to me for examination and report by the Medical Pensions Boards ; and the local Area Officers of the Ministry have received reports from me as to the condition, progress, etc., of Pensioners suffering from Tuberculosis, and recommendations as to the form of treatment most appropriate in each case.

Extra Nourishment.

As in past years extra nourishment has been granted to suitable cases, all applications being investigated by a special Sub-Committee appointed for this purpose. The cost of extra nourishment granted by this sub-committee during the financial year ended 31st March, 1933, amounted to £229 3s. 2d. as compared with £222 17s. 6d. during the previous twelve months.

Mogerhanger Park Sanatorium

Institutional treatment for cases of pulmonary Tuberculosis, and suitable cases of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis (glandular) is provided at the Council's Sanatorium, situated at Mogerhanger Park. The Sanatorium has accommodation for 84 beds ; 39 male, 39 female, and 6 children. During the year 1932, 125 cases completed treatment at the Sanatorium ; including one case admitted for observation and subsequently discharged as " non-tuberculous." In 70 cases the disease was either arrested or the condition much improved. Owing to the fact that cases in all stages of Tuberculosis are admitted to the Sanatorium, 24 failed to improve, and 30 died in the Institution. One valuable means of lessening the spread of Tuberculosis is by removing persons seriously affected with the disease from their homes to the Sanatorium ; this arrangement results in increased comfort to the sufferer, and greater security to other members of the household. The following table shows the condition at the end of 1932 of all patients who have received treatment at the Mogerhanger Park Sanatorium since it was opened on the 18th November, 1921 :

Condition as at 31st December, 1932.	CLASSIFICATION ON ADMISSION.														TOTAL CASES
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.										Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.				
	Early.			Intermediate			Advanced.			Total				Tot	
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.		M.	F.	Ch.		
<i>Discharged during the five years ending 31/12/26—</i>															
Recovered ...	15	23	15	5	8	1	...	1	...	68	...	...	3	3	71
Disease Quiescent ...	23	19	16	18	13	...	1	...	...	90	...	...	12	12	102
Disease Active—															
Improved ...	7	4	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	14	1	...	...	1	15
Not Improved ...	3	7	2	6	8	...	...	1	...	27	...	2	...	2	29
Non-Tuberculous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Patient Died ...	58	37	5	90	34	3	29	13	3	272	...	...	1	1	273
Transferred to other Areas or lost sight of	16	38	7	9	19	...	2	...	...	91	2	2	6	10	101
Total ...	122	128	45	128	84	4	33	15	3	562	3	4	22	29	597
<i>Discharged during the five years ending 31/12/31 —</i>															
Recovered ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	4	4	6
Disease Quiescent ...	70	60	49	18	19	2	...	...	...	218	1	3	45	49	267
Disease Active ...															
Improved ...	8	13	1	11	6	...	...	...	...	39	...	...	4	4	43
Not Improved ...	7	26	6	7	6	...	1	...	...	53	...	...	5	5	58
Non-Tuberculous ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Patient Died ...	48	43	3	90	55	...	33	23	1	296	1	...	1	2	298
Transferred to other Areas or lost sight of	16	22	11	11	13	...	1	...	...	74	...	2	8	10	84
Total ...	149	165	71	137	99	2	35	23	1	682	2	5	67	74	757

Conditions as at 31st December, 1932	CLASSIFICATION ON ADMISSION												TOTAL CASES.		
	Pulmonary Tuberculosis									Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis					
	Early	Intermediate			Advanced			Total.							
									M.	F.	Ch.	M.		F.	Ch.
Discharged during the year ending 31/12/32—															
Disease Quiescent ...	7	8	7	4	2	—	—	—	—	28	—	—	2	2	30
Disease Active—															
Improved ...	6	4	1	9	6	—	1	1	—	28	2	—	1	3	31
Not Improved ...	4	2	1	4	5	—	3	2	—	21	—	—	—	—	21
Non-Tuberculous ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Patient Died ...	1	1	—	4	9	—	11	12	—	38	—	—	—	—	38
Transferred to other Areas or lost sight of	...	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Total ...	18	16	10	22	22	1	15	15	—	119	2	—	3	5	125

The results shown compare very favourably with those published by other similar Institutions.

Public Health Act, 1925, Sec. 62.

It was not found necessary during 1932 to apply for any Orders under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, for the compulsory removal to Hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis, cases of the disease specified under this Section having voluntarily agreed to removal to the Council's Institution.

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Cases of Tuberculosis of the bones, joints, etc., in adults and children are dealt with by securing their admission to Institutions recognised by the Ministry of Health for this purpose. Among those made use of by the Council are the following :—

Royal Sea-Bathing Hospital, Margate.

United Services Fund Hospital, Heatherwood, Ascot.

Lord Mayor Treloar Cripples' Hospital and College, Alton.

Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital (Country Branch), Stanmore.

St. George's Convalescent Branch Hospital, Wimbledon.

St. Martin's Orthopaedic Hospital, Pyrford.

Creton Sanatorium, Northamptonshire.

Wingfield Orthopaedic Hospital, Headington, Oxford.

It will be observed that some of these Institutions are at a considerable distance from Bedfordshire, and the travelling expenses to and from these Institutions are, therefore, somewhat high. In cases where the patients are unable to meet these costs, the whole or part is paid by the County Council.

In cases where the circumstances of the patients make it impossible for them to bear the cost of surgical appliances, the necessary expenditure is met by the County Council. With regard to many insured persons, the cost is shared with the Approved Society to which the individual belongs.

General.

All cases on the Tuberculosis Dispensary Register are visited from time to time by the Council's Health Visitors ; and visits and examinations are made by the Tuberculosis Officers as and when required.

Shelters are made use of—especially in the country districts—and have proved of great service, particularly to patients who have become used to sleeping in plenty of fresh air whilst in sanatoria. Special visits are made to patients to whom shelters have been loaned to ascertain that they are being made proper use of.

The closest co-operation exists between your Tuberculosis Officers and the School Medical Officers in the County ; all children found by the latter either to be suffering from Tuberculosis, or suspected to be so affected, are referred to the Tuberculosis Officers for examination and necessary action.

The same co-operation exists with regard to the general Hospitals at Bedford and Luton. I am gratified to be able to report that the medical practitioners of Bedfordshire continue to make full use of the facilities afforded them under the Council's Tuberculosis Scheme ; and I gladly avail myself of this opportunity of expressing to them my sincere thanks for their valuable help, and testifying to the cordial relations which exist between them and the Public Health Department.

Residential Treatment.

The following Table shows the extent of institutional treatment afforded to Bedfordshire patients :—

		In Insti- tutions on 1/1/32	Admitted during the year	Disch'ged during the year	Died in Insti- tutions	Remain- ing in on 31/12/32
Adults {	Men ...	26	61	46	13	28
	Women ...	27	52	41	17	21
Children		18	18	18	—	18
Total		71	131	105	30	67

On comparing these figures with those of the previous year, it is seen that the number of patients admitted to Institutions during 1932 was 27 less than the number admitted during 1931.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

There has been no material change during the year in the arrangements made for the treatment of Venereal diseases.

The Clinics are open on the following days in each week and between the times stated :—

CLINIC AT	DAY	TIME
Bedford County Hospital ...	Wednesdays ...	... Women, 5.30—6.30 p.m. Men, 6.45—7.45 p.m.
	Fridays ...	... Women 2—3 p.m. Men, 3.15—4.15 p.m.
Bute Hospital Luton ...	Wednesdays	... Women, 2—3 p.m. Men, 3.15 to 4.15 p.m.
	Fridays ...	... Women, 5.30—6.30 p.m. Men, 6.45—7.45 p.m.

Intermediate treatment is carried out at Bedford on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings from 7 to 8 ; and at Luton on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 6.30 to 7.30.

For the purpose of comparison, the following table is inserted, showing the principal statistics for each area for the last five years :—

BEDFORD

Year	New Cases.				Total No. of injects. of N.A.B., etc.	Wasser-man Tests	Total attendances of Patients
	Syphilis	Gonor-rhoea	Non V.D.	Total			
1928	11	36	22	69	224	33	1151
1929	20	28	20	68	236	46	1089
1930	31	48	19	98	405	74	1551
1931	23	52	18	94	432	51	1696
1932	21	52	14	87	956	88	1982

LUTON

Year	New Cases.				Total No. of injects. of N.A.B., etc.	Wasser-man Tests	Total attendances of Patients
	Syphilis	Gonor-rhoea	Non-V.D.	Total			
1928	11	45	32	88	246	65	1538
1929	27	54	44	125	328	78	2179
1930	18	89	39	146	354	92	2129
1931	36	83	31	150	647	84	2228
1932	43	73	26	142	1357	163	2601

An examination of the above statistics shows that the number of cases coming under treatment for the first time during 1932 was about the same as in the previous year.

The result of the efforts made at the Bedford and Luton Clinics to encourage patients to attend regularly for treatment is shown in the column headed "total attendances." The figure for Bedford for 1932 is 1982 as against 1,696 in 1931, and 2,601 at Luton as compared with 2,228 in the previous year.

It was necessary for two patients to receive hospital in-patient treatment during the year. Arrangements were made for both patients to be treated at the London Lock Hospital.

At the end of 1932, the total number of patients on the books was as follows :—

		<i>Syphilis</i>		<i>Gonorrhoea</i>		<i>Total</i>	
		M	F	M	F	M	F
Bedford	...	29	14	26	12	55	26
Luton	...	49	25	38	12	87	37
		—	—	—	—	—	—
		78	39	64	24	142	63
		—	—	—	—	—	—

(N.B.—Of these cases, 9 of Syphilis and 11 of Gonorrhoea attend the Clinics from outside the County).

It will be seen from the above figures that the total number of persons under observation or receiving treatment on 31st December, 1932, was 205, being an increase of 46 on the previous year.

BACTERIOLOGICAL DIAGNOSES.

This provision is now a general one throughout the County—to the end of affording facilities to general practitioners for the diagnosis of diphtheria, enteric fever and tuberculosis.

There is no County Laboratory for Bedfordshire, but the Medical Officers of Health of the two large towns, Luton and Bedford, are both supplied with Laboratories and undertake the necessary bacteriological work.

In other cases the material is forwarded to one of the existing Institutions prepared to undertake such work. The Institutions so acting are :—The Lister Institute, Chelsea Bridge Road, S.W.1.; the Clinical Research Association, Watergate House, Adelphi, London, W.C.2.; and the Counties Public Health Laboratory, Queen Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

The County Medical Officer is prepared to undertake this work so far as Tuberculosis is concerned and outfits are supplied from the Office on request.

PROTECTIVE INOCULATIONS.

All the local health authorities of the County provide diphtheria antitoxin, which is often issued, free of cost, to medical practitioners.

Arrangements have been made by the Ministry of Health for a supply of botulinus antitoxin serum, which can be obtained on application to the Medical Officer of Health, Guildhall, Cambridge.

MATERNITY AND CHILD-WELFARE.

As in past years, Maternity and Child Welfare Work has taken a prominent place in the public health activities of the Council, and I have pleasure in testifying to the fact that all those employed upon it have rendered good services.

HEALTH VISITING.

During the year, 28,846 visits were paid by the Council's Health Visitors, of which 1,783 were primary visits and 11,039 following-up visits to children under 1 year of age, 15,206 were visits to children of 1 to 5 years of age, and 818 visits were paid to expectant mothers. All these figures show increases on the previous year's work.

The Borough of Bedford Health Visitors paid 6,577 home visits.

The Borough of Luton Health Visitors paid 6,842 home visits, and in addition attended to 774 dressings, etc., at the Office.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

There are 11 Infant Welfare Centres provided or subsidised by the County Council, at each of which one of the Council's Health Visitors is an active worker.

The Council's Assistant Medical Officer (female) for Maternity and Child Welfare work attends each Centre at regular intervals (at most Centres fortnightly).

The following table shows the attendances at the various Centres in the Administrative County :—

	No. of children who made their first attendance during 1932.		No. of sessions Centre opened.	Total attendances of children.		No. of consultations with Medical Officer in attendance at Centre.	No. of children in attendance at the end of the year.	
	Under 1 year	1-5 years		Under 1 year	1-5 years		Under 1 year	1-5 years
Ampthill	26	3	48	380	780	513	22	40
Arlesey	47	22	24	393	497	721	24	45
Biggleswade	53	24	49	629	940	359	33	70
Dunstable	52	20	45	574	1644	651	36	76
Eaton Bray	22	8	25	97	241	253	12	24
Houghton Regis	18	2	50	365	542	439	13	17
Kempston	63	2	52	1007	663	501	42	49
Leighton Buzzard	62	20	46	921	1791	755	54	85
Stopsley	19	10	18	169	568	334	12	32
Toddington	19	14	45	280	738	312	16	41
Woburn	2	1	22	16	253	*—	3	16
Total	383	126	424	4831	8657	4838	267	495

* The Council's Medical Officer does not attend at this Centre.

Dr. G. K. Bowes (Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Bedford) has kindly supplied the following figures in respect of the **Borough of Bedford** Infant Welfare Centres :—

Total attendances during the year	...	...	8,602
No. of individual children attending Welfare Centre			746
No. of individual mothers attending Welfare Centre			625
Ante-Natal attendances	...	...	277

During the year under review a new Centre was opened at the Salvation Army Hall, Kennedy Road. Dr. Bowes reports that

“ Though this hall is convenient for the Elstow Road Estate it is not easy of access from the London Road Estates. Moreover, the accommodation is not really adequate to permit the attendance of a doctor. The attendances at this centre have shown a tendency to increase since its opening. It was started experimentally for a year in February, 1932, and as it appears to serve a useful purpose its use has been continued for a further period.”

Dr. W. Archibald (Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Luton) has kindly supplied the following figures in respect of the Infant Welfare Centres in the **Borough of Luton** :—

Total attendances during the year	...	...	14,285
No. of individual children attending Welfare Centre			1,441
Ante-Natal attendances	...	...	95

MILK GRANTS.

During the financial year, 1932-33, the sum of £120 6s. 5d. was spent by the County Council upon the supply of free milk to infants and nursing mothers. A special Sub-Committee investigates each case, and grants are discontinued when the child reaches the age of twelve months, or sooner in those instances where the financial circumstances of the parents have sufficiently improved to warrant its withdrawal.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS.

During the year under review 55 cases were admitted to the Maternity Department of the County Hospital in accordance with the arrangement made by the County Council with that Institution.

Similar arrangements have been made by the Borough of Bedford, and during 1932, 20 cases from that Borough were admitted to the Hospital.

With regard to the Maternity Home at Luton, the Medical Officer of Health reports that 182 cases were admitted during 1932.

The Bedford and County Girls' Home, now situated at Park Road North, Bedford, provides accommodation for ten mothers and their infants. During 1932, 30 cases were admitted. This Institution is maintained by the St. Albans' Diocesan Girls' Aid Association, to which the County Council contributes an annual sum of £345 16s. 7d. An annual grant is also made by the Bedford Town Council.

Children requiring orthopaedic treatment are referred to the general or special hospitals and financial assistance given when required.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

The County is fairly well provided with these nursing services. The Bedfordshire County Nursing Association is doing excellent work. Expenses are met by voluntary contributions and small fees are charged to those requiring services, together with a grant from the County Council which, for the year 1932-33, amounted to £826 2s. 6d.

The Bedford District Nursing Association continued its good work during 1932. This Association provides skilled nursing for persons in their own homes. The minimum subscription for membership is 4/- per annum. The services of the Nurses are also available for non-members when a nominal charge is made for each visit.

A Nursing Association has recently been formed in the Borough of Luton in substitution of the Nurses employed in connection with various religious bodies. Excellent progress is reported. The Association now employs seven nurses.

Maternity Outfits.—Sterilised maternity outfits are provided by the County Council at cost price, and in necessitous cases free of charge.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE MIDWIVES ACTS.

The number of midwives who notified their intention to practise midwifery within the Administrative County was 119 ; as against 111 in the preceding year, 116 in 1930, 108 in 1929, 99 in 1928 and 93 in 1927.

INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.

The following table shows the number of visits paid by the County Council Inspectors of Midwives during 1932, as compared with the last four years :—

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Routine visits of inspection	186	201	191	229	234
Visits paid but midwives not at home	120	120	119	149	161
Special enquiry visits arising from notifications ...	472	500	430	397	349
Other special visits and enquiries	285	209	174	165	227
	1063	1030	914	940	971

During the year 1932 there were two cases of failure to comply with the Rules of the Central Midwives Board.

In the first case the midwife failed in two cases of illness of the child to call in to her assistance a registered medical practi-

tioner, and having been in contact with four cases of infectious disease, failed to notify the Local Supervising Authority of the fact and to carry out the necessary disinfection. (Rules E.6, E.20 and E.21 (5)). The case was reported to the Central Midwives Board who ordered that the Midwife should undergo a two months' course of post-certificate residential training at an approved Institution. A satisfactory report having been received from the Institution on the completion of the course, the Board decided to take no further action in the matter.

In the second case the midwife failed to notify her change of address as required by Rule E.22 (2). The midwife was duly cautioned.

The number of visits paid by the **Bedford Borough** Council's Inspector of Midwives during the year ending 31st December 1932, was as follows :—

Routine visits of inspection and interviews at Office ...	47
Visits paid but Midwives not at home	1
Special enquiry visits arising from notifications ...	44
Other special visits and enquiries	21
	113

Notifications received from Midwives who notified their intention to practise in the Administrative County :—

	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932
Of intention to practise.....	99	108	116	111	119
Of change of address	13	7	6	11	13
Of change of name	—	—	—	2	6
Of sending for medical help	284	324	321	283	265
Of still-births occurring in their practice	32	32	25	28	18
Of deaths occurring in their { Mothers } practice	22	15	19	1	—
				14	10
Of laying out the dead	5	10	12	6	10
Of liability to be a source of infection	6	11	18	15	17
	461	507	517	471	458

Still-births—Of the 18 still-births occurring in Midwives' practices, 17 were legitimate and 1 illegitimate. Enquiries were made in respect of each case. Two of the mothers were employed at Factories, and the remainder were engaged in home domestic work.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia occurring in Midwives' practices, 1928, 11 ; 1929, 15 ; 1930, 10 ; 1931, 5 ; 1932, 6.

Ophthalmia—Inflammation or discharge from the eyes, however slight. Central Midwives' Board Rule E. 20 (5). During 1932 there were 15 cases reported.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum—No cases were reported during 1932.

Each midwife is supplied with a leaflet giving instructions as to the care of Infants' eyes, also an ophthalmic pipette containing collosal argenticum, and prompt enquiries are made into every case occurring in a midwife's practice.

Leaflets upon Venereal Diseases are also supplied.

Each midwife who has given notice of her intention to practise in the Council's area has been asked to make a return of the number of cases she has attended during the year (*a*) as a midwife, and (*b*) as a maternity nurse (*i.e.*, acting under a medical practitioner).

Returns were made by 92 midwives, showing that during 1932 1,020 cases were attended by 80 midwives. In addition 441 cases were attended by 72 midwives acting in the capacity of maternity nurses.

The following statistics have been compiled from the returns made by the Midwives :-

	As Midwife (<i>i.e.</i> , acting alone)	As Maternity Nurse (<i>i.e.</i> , acting under a Doctor.)
Attended no cases	11	20
Attended less than 5	34	36
Attended between 5 and 10	19	20
Attended between 10 and 25	17	14
Attended between 25 and 50	6	2
Attended between 50 and 100	4	—
Attended between 100 and 200	1	—

Medical aid was sought in 24.3 per cent. of the midwives' cases.

During the year, 186 claims under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918, were received from Doctors, amounting to £305 15s. 6d. of which amount, the sum of £66 8s. 0d. was recovered from the patients concerned.

On December 31st, 1932, there were in the administrative County 106 practising midwives. Of these, 43 were nurse-midwives working under Committees affiliated to the Bedfordshire County Nursing Association, and 3 were nurse-midwives employed by independent Local Nursing Associations; 59 were trained midwives in private practice, and the remaining 1 was an untrained *bona-fide* midwife.

To assist the Bedfordshire County Nursing Association to secure and train sufficient suitable women for the work of nurse-midwife, the County Council makes an annual contribution proportionate to the number of midwives newly appointed by them within the year, whether to fill a vacancy or to serve in an area hitherto unprovided for.

During the year, three Bedfordshire candidates were trained in Midwifery, and four others were appointed. A grant is also

made, based on the number of cases attended by the nurse-midwives employed by the Association to enable nurses to be maintained in those Districts, which, without some financial assistance, are unable to bear the cost involved.

The total grant made by the County Council to the Association in respect of the year 1932-33 was £826 2s. 6d.

The County Midwives' Association (of which your Medical Officer is the President) held several very successful meetings in 1932. At these meetings useful addresses were delivered by experienced workers, to whom the Association is much indebted. The County Council makes a grant of 2 guineas per annum to the Association, which now has a membership of 125.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

The County Council is the Local Supervising Authority under the Nursing Homes Registration Act, 1927 for the Administrative County, with the exception of the Borough of Bedford, and is therefore responsible for the registration and supervision of such Homes within their area.

Visits of inspection have been paid to all registered premises by one of the Council's Medical Officers, and visits of inspection to those premises which have been registered as Maternity Homes have been carried out by the Inspectors of Midwives.

On 31st December, 1932, the number of premises registered in the Council's area was thirteen; as Maternity Homes 8, as Nursing Homes 5, providing a total accommodation of 19 beds for maternity cases and 33 for surgical and medical cases.

The number of registered premises in the **Borough of Bedford** was 6, providing accommodation for 20 maternity cases and 39 other cases.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION.

During the year 1932, 290 visits (45 of which were primary visits) were made to children under the age of seven who are being maintained for reward apart from their parents or relatives.

Generally speaking, the children were found to be well looked after, receiving both care and affection, being in fact, treated as members of the family. In no case was it found necessary to make an Order for the removal of the child.

The number of infants under the age of 7 living in the administrative area of the Council under the Children Act, 1908, on the 31st December, 1932, was 67.

Dr. Bowes, the Medical Officer of Health for the **Borough of Bedford**, reports that 21 primary visits were made by his Health Visitors, and 69 periodical and special visits.

Dr. Archibald, the Medical Officer of Health for the **Borough of Luton**, reports that during the year 181 visits were made by his Health Visitors. The number of infants on the Register was 16.

At the end of the year under review legislation was passed raising the age, under which the reception of children for reward must be notified, from seven to nine years, and altering the conditions with regard to notification, etc.

THE MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The work of this branch of the Public Health Department is fully reported upon in my Annual Report on the School Medical Service, but in accordance with the custom of past years I have extracted the following statistical information :—

Among the 8,529 elementary school children examined, 1,879 were recommended to have treatment for some defect, including decayed teeth and verminous conditions—a smaller proportion than was found in 1931. Of the 670 scholars attending Secondary Schools examined by the Council's Medical Officers, 197 were found to require some form of medical treatment.

The defects found are classified in the following table :—

	<i>Elementary Schools</i>		<i>Secondary Schools</i>	
Defective Vision and Squint	in	511 children	in	50 children
Eye Diseases	...	29	...	1 child
Enlarged Tonsils	...	78	...	1
Adenoids	...	62	...	2 children
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	...	461	...	—
Diseases of the Ear & Deafness	...	87	...	3
Diseases of the Skin	...	22	...	2
Decayed Teeth	...	168	...	86
Verminous conditions	...	159	...	1 child
Malnutrition	...	37	...	9 children
Anaemia	...	30	...	4
Various forms of Tuberculosis	...	7	...	—
Heart Disease	...	36	...	4
Rickets, Spinal Curvature and other Deformities	...	51	...	24
Other Diseases	...	278	...	49
Totals	...	2016	...	236

The percentage of defects treated (not including decayed teeth and verminous heads) in respect of Elementary School children was 63.5, and 58.4 in respect of scholars attending Secondary Schools.

SCHOOL DENTISTRY.

Up to the present the Dental Scheme is confined to children attending the Council's Elementary Schools.

The following particulars are given of the work performed in 1932 :—

(1) Number of children who were :

(a) Inspected by the Dentist—

Routine Age Groups	5.....	1521	} Total ... 16694
	6.....	1712	
	7.....	1826	
	8.....	1917	
	9.....	1990	
	10.....	1981	
	11.....	2149	
	12.....	2002	
	13.....	1410	
	14.....	186	

Specials.....	83
Grand Total	<u>16777</u>

(b) Found to require treatment 7733

(c) Actually treated..... 3058

(d) Re-treated during the year as the result of
periodical examination 33

(2) Half days devoted to	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Inspection... 278} \\ \text{Treatment... 458} \end{array} \right\}$	Total ...736
--------------------------	---	--------------

(3) Attendances made by the children for treatment 3091

(4) Fillings	...	$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{Permanent Teeth} & \dots 1223 \\ \text{Temporary Teeth} & \dots 32 \end{array} \right\}$	Total 1255
--------------	-----	---	------------

(5) Extractions $\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \text{Permanent Teeth} & \dots 701 \\ \text{Temporary Teeth} & \dots 4456 \end{array} \right\}$ Total...5157

(6) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions...nil.

(7) Other operations to permanent or temporary teeth (Scaling, etc.)	297
--	-----

ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT.

Every effort is made to discover persons suffering from crippling defects, both among the adult and child population of this County. Arrangements are made for each case to be examined by an Orthopaedic Surgeon whose recommendations for treatment are communicated to the appropriate Committee of the Council. In every instance arrangements have been made for this treatment to be carried out, where necessary the whole or part of the cost being borne by the Council. Each case is followed up and when occasion arises the patients are again referred to the Specialist and should further treatment be required steps are taken to see that this is obtained.

Orthopaedic treatment frequently includes the provision of suitable apparatus for the patients. Where necessary the patients receive financial assistance in procuring such appliances, many of which are costly.

I wish to take this opportunity of placing on record the very helpful co-operation which exists between this Department and the various Voluntary Hospitals in the County and in London, and in particular the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, London, in which Institution and its Country Branches a large amount of treatment is given to Bedfordshire cases, the whole or part of the cost being borne by the County Council.

The arrangements outlined above have proved very satisfactory, present-day facilities for travel making it possible, and in many cases convenient, for patients to attend at a London Hospital.

I can testify to the appreciation of all patients concerned of the arrangements which have been made on their behalf.

PUBLIC VACCINATION.

The following Statistics for the whole County have been compiled from the Monthly Returns of the Vaccination Officers.

	VACCINATION DISTRICT									
	BEDFORD	BIGGLES- WADE	AMPTHILL	WOBURN	LUTON	DUN- STABLE	LEIGHTON BUZZARD	WYM- INGTON	EATON SOCON	TOTALS
No. of Cases outstanding on 31/12/31 ...	196	64	22	17	74	15	8	1	3	400
No. of children shown on Birth Sheets received during the year... ..	956	433	185	122	1054	186	161	10	55	3162
	— 1152	— 497	— 207	— 139	— 1128	— 201	— 169	— 11	— 58	— 3562
Successfully Vaccinated ...	163	46	31	21	58	5	17	—	14	355
Insusceptible of Vaccination	3	3	3	—	3	—	1	—	—	13
Died Unvaccinated ...	35	10	1	4	41	8	4	—	1	104
Declarations of Conscientious Objections ...	679	375	152	91	916	178	129	9	33	2562
	— 880	— 434	— 187	— 116	— 1018	— 191	— 151	— 9	— 48	— 3034
No. of Cases outstanding on 31/12/32 ...	272	63	20	23	110	10	18	2	10	528

It will be observed from the foregoing table that during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1932, 3,162 births were entered on the Births Lists received by the Vaccination Officers, which, together with the number outstanding from the previous year (400) made a total of 3,562.

Of this number, 355 were successfully vaccinated, and declarations of conscientious objection were made in respect of 2,562 infants. Of the remainder 104 died unvaccinated; 13 were found to be insusceptible of vaccination; and 528 had either left the County or were otherwise outstanding at the end of the year.

A study of these figures shows that Declarations of Objection were made in respect of approximately 71.9 per cent of the total number of births dealt with during the year under review, whilst the percentage successfully vaccinated was 9.9 as compared with 8.4 in 1931. This slight increase was anticipated on account of the occurrence of small pox in the County in 1932.

The following table shows the percentage of births vaccinated during 1932 in the various vaccination Districts of the County :—

Eaton Socon	...	...	...	...	24.14	per cent
Woburn	...	...	...	...	15.10	,, ,,
Ampthill	...	...	...	...	14.97	,, ,,
Bedford ...	...	...	...	...	14.14	,, ,,
Leighton Buzzard	...	...	...	...	10.06	,, ,,
Biggleswade	...	...	...	...	9.25	,, ,,
Luton ...	...	...	...	...	5.14	,, ,,
Dunstable	...	...	...	...	2.48	,, ,,
Wymington	...	...	...	...	0.00	,, ,,

HOSPITALS FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Report of the County Medical Officer of Health giving full details of the existing provision of Hospital accommodation for Infectious diseases and recommendations in accordance with Section 63 of the Local Government Act, 1929, was submitted to the Public Health, Housing and General Purposes Committee in October, 1931, and a Draft Scheme was submitted to the Committee in January, 1932. A special Sub-Committee has been appointed to consider the Scheme, but no further action has been taken pending the re-arrangement of County Districts.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE INSTITUTIONS

BEDFORD

In the Summer of 1932 the existing open verandahs along the front of the first floor of the male and female infirmary wards at the Bedford Institution were removed and substituted with verandahs composed of boarded floors, semi-glazed vita glass revolving fronts, and vita glass roofs.

BIGGLESWADE

The original hand laundry which was totally inadequate to deal with the work at the Biggleswade Institution has been removed, the existing buildings re-conditioned, and the following new laundry machinery fitted—two washing machines, one hydro extractor, a continuous electric drier, a steam heated ironing machine, and four electric irons. The whole of the Laundry is electrically equipped both for power and light, and the cable is in ready for future extensions.

AMPTHILL

At the time of writing this Report, work has been commenced at the Ampthill Institution in connection with the construction of a new suite of sanitary offices consisting of two baths, two pedestal closets, and sluice room on the first floor adjoining two disused wards. The disused wards will be cleaned, the walls distempered, a new ceiling will be put to the open roof and the existing brick floors will be repaired and overlaid with rubber. Certain of the obsolete type of steel windows are being replaced with a more modern hospital type of window. The disused bath room on the ground floor is being converted into a ward kitchen fitted with an electric sterilizer, etc. On the first floor immediately above the kitchen a sitting room is being built for the use of the head nurse.

The following table gives brief particulars of the five Institutions in Bedfordshire :—

Name and Situation	Area Served		No. of Sick Wards	Beds available for sick, maternity, and mental cases at 31/12/32			
	Acreage	Pop. acc. to 1931 Census		Men	Women	Children under 16	Total
Ampthill Public Assistance Institution Ampthill	69,992	22,151	6	26	28	—	54
Bedford Public Assistance Institution (St. Peters Hospital), Kimbolton Rd., Bedford...	118,864	70,298	12	46	45	9	100
Biggleswade Public Assistance Institution Biggleswade	58,275	29,946	9	23	37	2	62
Luton Public Assistance Institution, 11a, Dunstable Rd., Luton ...	39,779	87,164	24	79	109	13	201
†Leighton Buzzard Public Assistance Institution, Leighton Buzzard ...	16,032	10,966	8	25	30	—	55
Total	302,942	220,525	59	199	249	24	472

† Arrangements were in force whereby patients might be sent to this Institution by the County of Buckingham up to a number not exceeding 26 at any one time, but this arrangement was terminated on 31st March, 1932.

Particulars of admissions, discharges, etc., during the year are set out below :—

Name of Institution.	Patients in on 1/1/32.	Admissions during the year (including infants born in the Institution)	Deaths.	Discharges.	Patients remaining in on 31/12/32.
Ampthill	43	69	21	38	53
Bedford	82	702	150	564	70
Biggleswade	45	149	35	117	42
Luton	155	544	106	441	152
Leighton Buzzard...	49	36	24	19	42
Total	374	1500	336	1179	359

VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS.

Particulars of the Voluntary Hospitals in the County were set out on page 64 of my Annual Report for 1930. There have been no alterations or additions during the year under review, but at the time of writing this Report the work of erecting a new X-Ray Department at the Bedford County Hospital, estimated to cost about £6,000, is proceeding, and it is expected that it will be completed very shortly.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For the removal of cases of infectious disease (other than smallpox) there is a Motor Ambulance attached to each of the seven isolation hospitals within the County, with the exception of Leighton Buzzard, where a horse-drawn cab is provided.

In addition, horse-drawn cabs are kept at the Isolation Hospitals at Luton, Steppingley and Milton Ernest for cases of smallpox.

The County Council's Motor Ambulance for the removal of cases of Tuberculosis is stationed at the County Sanatorium at Mogerhanger Park.

The following particulars with regard to Ambulance provisions for accident and non-infectious cases are included in this Report as a ready means of reference for Medical Officers and others concerned :—

MOTOR AMBULANCES.

<i>Owned by :—</i>	<i>Stationed at :—</i>
Bedford Borough Police ... (Telephone Bedford 3013)	Messrs. Murkett's Garage The Embankment, Bedford
Luton Corporation ... (Telephone : Luton 2220)	Police Station, Luton
British Red Cross Society ... (Telephone : Luton 2220)	Police Station, Luton
British Red Cross Society ... (Telephone : Dunstable 96)	Messrs. Waterlow's Works, High Street North, Dunstable
County Constabulary ... (Telephone : Biggleswade 26)	Court House, Saffron Road, Biggleswade
*Mr. Frank R. Webb ... (Telephone : Leighton Buzzard 100)	High Street Garage Leighton Buzzard
*London Brick Co. & Forders, Ltd. (Telephone : Kempston 11)	Brickworks, Stewartby, near Bedford.

*The last two belong to private firms and are available for the use of the public by arrangement with the owners.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEDICAL DOMICILIARY TREATMENT.

No alteration was made in the arrangements for administering medical out-relief under the Public Assistance Committee during the year.

A list of the District Medical Officers and their Districts will be found on pages 8 and 9 of this Report.

BLIND WELFARE.

The Blind Persons Act, 1920, is administered by the Blind Persons Act Committee of the County Council in accordance with a Scheme made by the Council and approved by the Minister of Health. This Committee advises the Council upon the question of grants to the North and South Bedfordshire Societies for the Welfare of the Blind, which Societies have been established upon a voluntary basis for a considerable number of years, and they undertake the general supervision of the registration and welfare of all blind persons resident in the County. These Societies each employ two certificated Home Teachers who are engaged in visiting the blind in their own homes, the number of home visits made during the year being 6,940, in addition to those of many Voluntary Helpers, who throughout the County render invaluable service in many ways. The Home Teachers give help and advice and also lessons in reading from Braille, handicraft work such as hand and machine knitting, rug making, rush and cane chair seating, mat making, basket making and pastime occupations. Ten of the blind persons are registered as Home Workers.

Register of Blind Persons.

A Register is kept at the Shire Hall of all blind persons in the County with particulars of each case compiled from information obtained and supplied by the Societies above referred to.

On March 31st, 1932, there were 405 registered blind persons residing in the County.

During the year the following cases were removed from the Register :—

Sight improved after operation.....	4
Left County	5
Died	45
	—
	54
	—

and 37 cases were added to the Register.

The number of cases on the Register on 31st March, 1933, was therefore 388.

A form of medical certificate has been drawn up and is now used by the Ophthalmic Surgeons in new cases.

Workshops for the Blind.

There are Workshops for the Blind, at the premises of the South Bedfordshire Society at Luton, where eight men and three women are regularly employed in basket making, bee-skep making, rush and cane seating, making door mats and various kinds of woollen goods. One blind man is receiving training in brush-making at Leatherhead.

Unemployable Blind.

The Voluntary Societies have during the year, under review, considered the circumstances of all unemployable blind persons and where necessary have made grants in money or kind to meet the needs of each particular case as far as possible. Since the 1st October, 1931, all the blind persons (except those in Institutions) which hitherto had received assistance through the various Guardians Committees, have been dealt with by the Voluntary Societies.

The numbers on the register include 20 blind persons in Institutions in the County.

Books for the Blind.

These are supplied on loan by the National Library for the Blind and £1 per head per annum is paid by the Voluntary Societies to that Institution for each person making use of such books.

Social Events.

Besides the Annual Summer Outings, Social gatherings such as reading circles, teas, etc., have been arranged and wireless sets have been supplied. White sticks for the use of the blind have also been presented.

Inspection.

Prior to the coming into operation of the Local Government Act, 1929, the work of the Societies was inspected by the Ministry of Health. This duty now falls upon the Blind Persons Act Committee of the County Council who have requested their Chairman to make the necessary periodical inspections.

MENTAL TREATMENT ACT, 1930.

One of the main objects of this Act is the early diagnosis and the treatment of Mental Disease in its incipient stage. County Councils are empowered to establish out-patient clinics to assist in this work. It also gives them power to admit into their Mental Hospitals voluntary patients seeking treatment, and it enables temporary patients to be treated for a period (not exceeding 12 months) on the recommendation of two Medical men without the intervention of any judicial authority.

This Act came into operation on the 1st January, 1931. The question of the provision of an out-patient Clinic is under consideration.

MENTAL DEFICIENCY ACTS, 1913-1927.

As in former years, all cases throughout the County coming to my notice as suspected to be suffering from Mental Deficiency have been examined, including children under five years of age, with a view to determining whether or not they were mentally defective.

Mentally defective children of school age were reported to the Education Committee, and the appropriate action taken so far as is possible under the present circumstances.

Adult defectives and defectives under school age were dealt with by the Mental Deficiency Acts Committee.

The numbers of defectives in Institutions or under guardianship on 31st December, 1932, were :—

		Males	Females	Total
Certified Institutions	...	36	55	91
State Institutions	...	11	6	17
Under Guardianship	...	2	3	5
		—	—	—
Totals		49	64	113
		—	—	—

BROMHAM HOUSE COLONY

The Bedfordshire and Northamptonshire Joint Board for the Mentally Defective are proceeding with plans, etc., for the erection of a permanent Colony at Bromham House. At the present time the existing House is being used for the accommodation of 24 high grade male mentally defectives, ten of these patients being Bedfordshire cases.

ADOPTIVE ACTS, BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, and the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, both optional, have been generally adopted by the Local Authorities throughout the County.

The following Bye-Laws or Regulations are also generally in force :—Slaughter-houses, Offensive Trades, Common Lodging-houses, Removal of House Refuse, Cleansing of Privies, etc., Prevention of Nuisances, Keeping of Animals, New Streets and Buildings (Structure and Drainage), Cleansing of Footways, Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk-shops.

MILK AND DAIRIES (Consolidation) ACT, 1915.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

There was no alteration during 1932 in the procedure, which has been fully detailed in previous Reports, for carrying out the provisions of the above Act and Order.

During the year 67 samples of milk were taken from all parts of the County, and submitted for bacteriological examination, all of which proved to be free from tubercle bacilli.

There were two instances in which it was considered advisable for an inspection of the herd to be made by the Council's Veterinary Surgeon. The cows in the herd were carefully examined and samples of milk tested but all the animals proved to be healthy.

The County Register contains the names of 669 registered Cowkeepers. Sanitary Authorities are required to notify the County Council of all alterations made in their Register of Cowkeepers so that the Central Register may be kept up-to-date. From the information in my Office it has been ascertained that there are approximately eleven thousand milch cows in the County.

TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1925

126 tuberculous cows were slaughtered during the year under the Tuberculosis Order of 1925 as compared with 134 in 1931.

MILK (Special Designation) ORDER, 1923.

Four new licences for the production and sale of Grade "A" milk within the County were issued during 1932, and three existing Licences were renewed.

The farm premises of persons holding licences are inspected periodically and show that the required high standard of cleanliness has in each case been maintained.

There is one Farm in the County producing and selling Certified and "Grade A" (Tuberculin Tested) Milk. These Licences are granted by the Ministry of Health.

The Special Sub-Committees responsible for the grants of free milk to expectant and nursing mothers, and ill-nourished tuberculous patients have decided that whenever possible the milk supplied to these persons shall be Grade "A," and failing this milk produced by a dairy farmer who has obtained good results in the County Clean Milk Competition.

BETTER MILK AND CLEAN MILKING COMPETITIONS, 1932.

Mr. J. W. Dallas, B.Sc., the County Agricultural Organiser, reports as follows :—

The second Better Milk Competition for dairy farmers in Bedfordshire, organised by the Agricultural Education Sub-Committee was, like the first competition, of four months duration and extended from the 1st February to the 31st May, 1932.

Eleven herds competed with two hundred and fifty cows in milk and thirty-eight persons engaged in the milking. In the Clean Milking Competition for milkers, twenty-five participated. The judging of conditions on the farms and of the milkers was carried out by the County Agricultural Organiser and the Dairying Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, and Certificates of Merit were awarded to nine of the competing farms in the Better Milk Competition, and to twenty-one of the milkers in the Clean Milking Competition.

Competitors in the Better Milk Competition submitted four samples of milk for examination and two surprise samples were taken by the milk recorders of the Bedfordshire Milk Recording Society and the points awarded on the results of the examination

of these samples were taken into consideration in the awarding of the certificates. As in the previous year, these samples showed a very high standard of cleanliness in spite of the varied conditions under which the milk was produced indicating the importance of methods during milking and in the cleansing of utensils.

Fifty-one per cent. of the samples were of the bacterial standards of "Certified" Milk and twenty-three per cent. attained the standards of Grade "A"; that is seventy-four per cent were of designated (graded) standards. Fifty per cent. of the samples showed no trace of coliform contamination and two-thirds of the samples did not exceed the standard specified in this respect for "Certified" milk. The average keeping quality was eighty-five hours from the time of milking, the graded samples averaging fully ninety hours and those below that standard averaging seventy-four hours.

Keen interest was shown by competitors in both the competitions and the results from the point of view of the cleanliness of the milk produced were certainly highly satisfactory.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES, ETC., IN FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925—1927.

By these Regulations a definite restriction has been placed on the use of preservatives in certain articles of food. No preservative is to be added to milk and cream in any case.

Thirteen samples of Cream were submitted for analysis during the year 1932. All the samples were found to be genuine. Of these samples three were taken in the Borough of Bedford and seven in the Borough of Luton.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (DRIED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1923-1927.

Ten samples were examined and found to comply with the requirements of the Regulations.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1923-1927.

Twenty samples were examined, all of which were found to comply with the requirements of the Regulations.

ARTIFICIAL CREAM ACT, 1929

There is one person registered for the manufacture and sale of artificial cream in the County. The premises are inspected periodically and samples of the cream taken and submitted to analysis. The samples taken during 1932 were found to be genuine.

CONDENSED SKIMMED MILK.

In my previous Annual Report attention was drawn to the fact that many people fail to realise that condensed skimmed milk is of very much lower nutritional value than new milk and cannot, therefore, be regarded as a satisfactory substitute. In order to again emphasize this important matter I wish to draw attention to the fact that condensed skimmed milk is milk which has been robbed of one of its most important constituents by the extraction of all fat (cream).

Not only is it unfit for babies which fact must, by law, be clearly stated on the label, but it also fails to satisfy the needs of growing children.

It has been proved by experiment that new milk is much superior in its growth-producing properties to skimmed milk, even when other forms of fat are included in the diet.

By buying new milk the public will not only be obtaining an article of far greater nutrient value than machine-skimmed condensed milk, but will also be assisting one of the most important agricultural industries in this Country.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The Reports of the District Medical Officers of Health record details of the inspection of meat and other foods, shops, stalls, slaughter-houses and other premises in which food is prepared.

In the Borough of Luton 7 tons 18 cwts. 0 qrs. 11 lbs. of unsound food was condemned and destroyed, and in the Borough of Bedford 3 tons 12 cwts. 1 qr. 20 lbs. of unsound food was destroyed.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

The following table is a summary of the number, nature, and results of analysis of the samples submitted to the County Analyst during 1932.

Article Submitted for Analysis.	No. of Genuine Samples (575).	No. of Adulterated Samples (26).	Remarks as to Adulteration.
Alum (powdered)	1		
Ammoniated tincture of Quinine ...	1		
Apricots (Dried)...	1		
Arrowroot...	2		
Asthma Cure ...	1		
Bacon ...	9		
Baking Powder ...	4		
Balsam of Aniseed	1		
Beans and Tomato Sauce ...	1		
Beef (Corned) ...	2		
Beef (Pressed) ...	1		
Beer ...	1		
Beer (herb) ...	1		
Biscuits ...	6		
Brawn (Canned)...	1		
Bread ...	2		
Butter ...	33		
Cake ...	6		
Cakeoma ...	4		
Calves Foot Jelly	1		
Camphorated Oil...	2		
Cascara Sagrada Extract ...	1		
Cheese ...	8		
Citrate of Magnesia	1		
Cinnamon (Ground)	1		
Cocoa ...	10		
Cod Liver Oil ...	1		
Coffee ...	3		
Coffee & Chicory...	5		
Corn Flour ...	2		
Cough Pastilles ...	1		
Cream (Artificial)	1		
Cream (Canned)...	3		
Currants ...	9		
Custard Powder ...	4		
Digestive Syrup ...	1		
Dripping ...	1		
Egg Powder ...	1		
Epsom Salts ...	1		
Essence of Almonds	1		
Essence of Ratavia	1		
Essence of Vanilla	1		
Eucalyptus ...	2		
Figs ...	1		
Fish Paste ...	5		
Flour ...	10		
,, (Self-Raising)	7		
Flowers of Sulphur	1		
Force ...	1		
Fruit Salad ...	2		
Gin ...	1		
Ginger Cake Flour	1		

TABLE OF SUMMARY.—*continued.*

Article Submitted for Analysis.	No. of Genuine Samples (575)	No. of Adulter- ated Samples. (26)	Remarks as to Adulteration.
Ginger (Ground)...	3		
Ginger Wine ...	2		
Glycerine ...	2		
Glycerine, Lemon and Ipecacuanha mixture ...	1		
Gripe Water ...	2		
Ham ...	2		
Health Salts ...	1		
Herrings (Canned)	1		
Honey ...	1		
Horseradish Cream	1		
Iodised Tablets ...	1		
Jam ...	15		
Lard ...	5		
Lemon Curd ...	4		
Lemon Crystals ...	1		
Linseed Compound	1		
Linseed Meal ...	1		
Liquorice Powder	4		
Liver Salts ...	1		
Lobster (Canned)	1		
Margarine ...	10		
Marmalade ...	6		
Meat Paste ...	2		
Meat & Malt Wine	1		
Meat Pie ...	3		
Milk ...	175		
		1	Added water 20%.
			Fined £1 and costs 8s.
		1	Added water 16.4%.
			Fined £2 and costs 8s.
		1	Fat abstracted 6%.
			Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 38.7 %.
			Informal sample.
			Subsequent formal samples proved to be genuine.
		1	Added water at least 5.9%. No action, milk fat good.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 4.6%. Vendor caut- ioned.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 36%. Fined £10 and costs £4 12s. 0d.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 6.3%. Vendor caut- ioned.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 15%. Fined £5 in- cluding costs.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 23%. Fined £2 and costs 8s.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 4%. Vendor caut- ioned.

TABLE OF SUMMARY.—*continued.*

Article Submitted for Analysis.	No. of Genuine Samples (575).	No. of Adulterated Samples (26).	Remarks as to adulteration.
Milk (<i>continued</i>)		1	Fat abstracted at least 6.6%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 9.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 15%. Fined £2 and costs 8s.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 19%. Fined £3 and costs £4 12s. 0d.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 8.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted at least 3.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Water added 13.1%. Fined £4 and costs £4 12s. 0d.
		1	Fat abstracted 9.3%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 6.0%. Vendor cautioned.
		1	Fat abstracted 9.0%. Fined £1 and £4 12s. costs.
Milk (Malted) ...	2		
Milk (Condensed full Cream) ...	3		
Milk (Condensed Sweetened Cream)	1		
Milk (Condensed MachineSkimmed)	4		
Milk of Magnesia...	1		
Mincemeat ...	6		
Mint Sauce ...	1		
Mustard ...	2		
		1	Foreign starch 5.0%, also small quantity of turmeric. No action taken. Sold as mixture.
		1	Foreign starch 9.0%.
Olive Oil ...	1		
Orange Wine ...	1		
Ovaltine ...	1		
Oxo ...	1		
Paraffin (Medicinal)	1		
Patagoric ...	1		
Pears (Canned) ...	1		
Peas (Canned) ...	3		
Peel (Mixed) ...	1		
Pepper ...	13		
Pickles ...	4		
Plums (Canned)	1		
Prunes ...	2		

TABLE OF SUMMARY—*continued.*

Article Submitted for Analysis.	No. of Genuine Samples (575)	No. of Adulterated Samples (26)	Remarks as to Adulteration.
Raisins	7		
Rice	4		
Rice (Flaked) ...	1		
Rice (Ground) ...	2		
Salad Cream ...	1		
Salmon (Canned)	5		
Sal Volatile ...	1		
Salt (Table) ...	1		
Santona	1		
Sausages	9	1	Sulphur dioxide 0.037, or 370 parts per mil- lion (450 parts per million allowed in sausages when labelled
		1	Sulphite preservative 250 parts per million (450 parts allowed when labelled).
Sausages (Cooked)	3		
Saveloys	1		
Savora	1		
Semolina	2		
Senna Pods ...	1		
Sodium Bicarbon- ate	2		
Soup (Canned) ...	1		
Soup (Dried) ...	2		
Spice (Mixed) ...	2		
Suet (Shredded)...	8		
Sugar	10		
Sultanas	5		
Sweet Nitre ...	1		
Sweets	1		
Swiss Roll ...	2		
Syrup of Figs ...	2		
Syrup of Rhubarb	1		
Tapioca	2		
Tartaric Acid ...	1		
Tea	9		
Tomato Chutney...	1		
Turpentine ...	1		
Tincture of Iodine	2		
Vaseline	1		
Vinegar	12	1	Deficient in acetic acid 2.5%. Vendor cautioned.
Whisky	1		
Yeast Tablets ...	1		

Mr. J. Kear Colwell, F.I.C., the County Analyst, reports as follows :—

“ During the year 1932, 601 samples were submitted to me for analysis in accordance with the provisions of the Food and Drugs Adulteration Act, 524 having been purchased with the usual formalities and 77 obtained informally. In the previous year (1931), 608 samples were examined.

Of these 601 samples, 26 (4.3 per cent) proved to be adulterated and were certified accordingly.

During the year 1931, 3.1 per cent of the samples were found to be “ not of the nature, substance and quality of the articles demanded ” and were certified to be adulterated.

In the year 1932, 24 of the adulterated samples were purchased with the usual formalities and 2 obtained informally.

The articles adulterated were samples of Milk, Mustard (Prepared), Sausages and Vinegar.

One hundred and ninety-four samples of Milk were examined and twenty (10.3 per cent) were found to be adulterated as either the fat or non-fatty solids fell below the Board of Agriculture limits for those constituents in genuine Milk of the poorest quality.

Four of the samples of Milk had been diluted with water, the quantity added being at least 20.0, 16.4, 5.9, and 13.1 per cent respectively, and from the sixteen others fat had been abstracted, the deficiency in that important ingredient varying from at least 3.0 to at least 36.0 per cent. The Board of Agriculture limits for fat are 3.0 per cent and for non-fatty solids 8.5 per cent. That these figures must be regarded as being undoubtedly low is obvious when it is remembered that the average composition of the genuine Milk obtained in the County is : —Fat 3.6 per cent and non-fatty solids 8.9 per cent.

Neither preservative nor foreign colouring matter was found in any sample of Milk.

Two samples of Prepared Mustard were submitted for analysis, one obtained with the usual formalities, and the other purchased informally. Both were found to be adulterated, one contained Foreign Starch to the extent of 5.0 per cent, also a small quantity of turmeric, and the other contained Foreign Starch to the extent of 9.0 per cent as well as a little turmeric, added, no doubt, in both cases, to improve the colour.

Ten samples of Sausages were submitted for analysis, two (20.0 per cent) of which were found to be adulterated. These contained Sulphite Preservative equal to 370 and 250 parts per million respectively, no indication being given to the purchaser of the presence of preservative.

Sulphur di-oxide, usually added in the form of a Sulphite, is the only preservative permitted to be used in Sausages, the amount being limited to not more than 450 parts per million of Sulphur di-oxide. Notice of this addition must be given to the purchaser in some suitable manner.

Thirteen samples of Vinegar were submitted for analysis and one was found to be adulterated (7.7 per cent). This was due to the deficiency of acetic acid to the extent of 2.5 per cent. Vinegar should contain at least 4.0 per cent of acetic acid.

The remaining Samples were all certified to be "not adulterated" and were for the most part of good quality."

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS IN THE BOROUGH OF BEDFORD.

During the year, 98 samples were taken, 51 being formal samples, and 47 informal samples, the whole of which were submitted to and reported on by the Public Analyst.

Of this number, 8 were found not to be genuine, the adulterated samples being 7 formal samples and 1 informal sample of milk. In one instance, in which water had been added to the extent of 21.1 %, the vendor was prosecuted and fined £5 and £1 2s. 0d. costs.

In addition, 295 samples of milk were obtained informally for examination in the Laboratory at the Town Hall. Of these, 43 were found to be below the standard and formal samples were obtained and submitted to the Public Analyst.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS IN THE BOROUGH OF LUTON.

During the year, 274 samples were taken, 168 being formal samples, and 106 informal samples, the whole of which were submitted to and reported on by the Public Analyst.

Of this number, 12 were found not to be genuine. Nine of these were milk. In three of these cases proceedings were instituted, and in one case a conviction was obtained.

MATTERS OF GENERAL SANITATION. WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year under review no further steps were taken with regard to the comprehensive scheme which Messrs. Binnie, Son and Deacon have prepared for the provision of a wholesome and adequate supply of water to all the Rural Areas in the County. The reason why no further progress was made was the Economic Crisis. At the time of writing, preliminary investigations have been resumed and trial bore holes are being sunk in the vicinity of Harlington.

I earnestly hope that it may be found possible to proceed with the scheme. It is a matter of common agreement that a wholesome and adequate supply of water should be available to all the inhabitants of this County at the earliest possible moment. Until this provision is secured, the risk of disease occurring, particularly in times of drought, is in some areas very considerable. It must also be borne in mind that the dearth and even absence of any kind of water in some Parishes gives added danger in case of an outbreak of fire.

Pending the completion of the County Scheme of Water Supply, the various Local Authorities in this County have, with the exception of those Areas served from the green-sands, refrained from taking any considerable steps to augment their water supplies.

The Medical Officer of Health for the **Kempston** Urban District reports as follows :—

“ 1995 ft. of 3” cast iron water pipes have been laid and coupled up with the Council’s mains during the year.”

The Medical Officer of Health for the **Leighton Buzzard** Urban District reports as follows :—

“ The 3” water main in Plantation Road has been extended a considerable distance to the house known as “ The Heath.”

With regard to the Borough of **Bedford** water supply the Medical Officer has given me the following information as to the additional steps now taken at the Waterworks :—

“ The difficulties which have been encountered with Algal growths in the past few years seem to have been overcome. It was discovered that a dose of 2—5 lbs. of Permanganate of Potash per 1,000,000 gallons of water has maintained the water in the reservoirs in a clean, healthy condition, free of Algal growths.

The old sprinkler type of filters are now being converted to the submerged type.”

The Medical Officer of Health for the **Biggleswade Rural** District reports as follows :—

“ In order to increase the pressure of water to the higher parts of the district, the Water Board have had under consideration the erection of a concrete water tower which will raise the level of the water some 70 feet above the existing level of the reservoir on Toplers Hill.

The new water tower will have a capacity of 300,000 gallons, and it is expected that the work of construction will be commenced at an early date.

When this scheme has been completed, it is anticipated that it will be possible to supply public water to the parish of Meppershall which hitherto has had to depend for its supply of water on shallow wells.”

The Medical Officer of Health for the **Luton Rural** District reports as follows :—

“ The water mains at Caddington have been extended on the Dunstable and Woodside Roads, 581 yards of 3" main and 252 yards of 2" main having been laid.

Work is proceeding on the provision of a public water supply at Slip End. A re-inforced concrete water tower and pump house is being erected and water mains with stand pipes are to be laid covering the whole of the village.”

and the Medical Officer of Health for the **Amphill Rural** District reports that extensions of the water supply have been carried out in the Parishes of Liddington and Marston.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS.

As far as could be ascertained, the River Ouse in Bedfordshire was free from serious pollution during 1932.

A number of samples of the River water were taken and submitted to chemical analysis with generally favourable results.

RAINFALL.

The total Rainfall recorded at the County Sanatorium in 1932 was 24.93 inches as against 21.84 in 1931. The figures for the Country as a whole are not available for purposes of comparison. The average for England and Wales in 1931 was 38 inches, which was 8 per cent. above the average.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

During 1932 various works of improvement and extension have been carried out.

KEMPSTON URBAN DISTRICT.

The Medical Officer reports that :—

“ Various lengths of new sewers have been connected up with the Sewage system during the year.”

LEIGHTON BUZZARD URBAN DISTRICT.

The Medical Officer reports that :—

“ A scheme is being prepared for sewerage the North portion of the District, which will shortly be submitted to the Council for their consideration.”

AMPTHILL RURAL DISTRICT.

The Medical Officer reports that :—

“ A length of Sewer has been taken up and relaid with six inch glazed pipes at Houghton Conquest, Rectory Lane.

The Sewer has been extended with six inch glazed pipes at Cranfield, High Street.

A new length of Sewer Ditch at Harlington, taking drainage from Church Road, has been cleaned out. A length of six inch Sewer has been taken over at Salford, and extended with six inch and nine inch pipes, in Woburn Sands Road.”

BEDFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

The Medical Officer reports that :—

“ 3,388 yards of open sewers have been thoroughly cleansed and repaired in various Parishes. At Goldington, about 2,700 yards of brook have been again cleansed and the banks sided up. 90 yards of old stone drain at Sharnbrook have been relaid with 9" socketed pipes complete with two manholes and various connections. Improvements have also been made to the Sharnbrook House, and Odell Road Sewage Works.”

BIGGLESWADE RURAL DISTRICT.

The Medical Officer reports that :—

“ An extension of the sewer was made to receive the drainage of 21 houses in London Road, Arlesey, and the existing drainage of 90 dwelling-houses has been reconstructed and connected up with the new sewerage system.

The extension of the sewers to properties on the west side of the Railway at Potton has now been completed and some eighty dwelling-houses had been connected up at the close of the year under review.”

SCAVENGING.

No important extensions in the disposal of refuse have been carried out during the year. Whilst adequate provision appears to be made in the Urban Districts, a wider adoption of scavenging schemes in the Rural Districts is desirable.

The Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of **Bedford** reports as follows :—

“ During the past year a change has been made in the method of collecting house refuse. The horse drawn vehicles have all been dispensed with and mechanically operated vehicles have been substituted. The new method shows considerable saving over the old.”

The Medical Officer of Health for the **Kempston** Urban District reports as follows :—

“ During the past year a destructor has been installed at the Council's Sewage Works where all house refuse is now incinerated. The furnace is of the forced draught type with a firebrick lined steel chimney stack. All refuse is now consumed in this furnace (including tins) immediately it arrives at the site.”

The Medical Officer of Health for the **Eaton Bray Rural** District reports that :—

“ A scheme for the collection of house refuse at Heath was put into operation during the year and is much appreciated by the inhabitants.”

The Medical Officer of Health for the **Biggleswade** Urban District draws attention to the fact that an abnormally high proportion of the refuse collected, especially during the summer months, consists of combustible matter which could be destroyed on the premises, and points out that if householders would make a practice of burning all refuse capable of being burnt, the work of refuse removal would be greatly facilitated, and the cost would be reduced.

THE RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Mr. E. W. Russell, the County Agricultural Officer, reports that :—

“ During the past year a considerable number of cases of infestation have been dealt with. The occupiers of premises concerned readily acted on the advice given, and it has not been necessary to ask the Clerk of the County Council to take legal proceedings in any of the cases.

Several cases were brought to my notice respecting old premises. Old types of structure present a difficult problem in dealing with rat destruction.

National Rat Week in 1932 was from 7th to 12th November, and the useful co-operation of Parish Councils, Sanitary Inspectors, Police, Press and Cinematograph Proprietors was again readily given.

I received a further complaint with regard to the refuse dump at Sundon, and the Chief Inspector from the Ministry of Agriculture subsequently inspected it with me. He agreed that the owners of the refuse dump were taking reasonable steps by covering up the refuse in layers with lime and using a gas ejector systematically.”

HOUSING.

From information kindly supplied by District Medical Officers of Health, I have prepared the following statement showing the number of new houses erected within the County during 1932 :—

	Total number of new houses erected in 1932	By the Local Authority	By private enterprise	
			With State Assistance under the Housing Acts (“Subsidy”)	Without
URBAN DISTRICTS				
Ampthill	13	8	0	5
Bedford	101	*42	0	59
Biggleswade	11	0	0	11
Dunstable	117	93	0	24
Kempston	35	0	0	35
Leighton Buzzard	27	10	0	17
Luton	761	120	0	641
Sandy	9	0	0	9
Total	1074	273	0	801
RURAL DISTRICTS				
Ampthill	104	36	11	57
Bedford	211	104	0	107
Biggleswade	61	26	0	35
Eaton Bray	22	12	0	10
Eaton Socon	9	6	0	3
Luton	150	8	14	128
Total	557	192	25	340

* Erected by the Bedford Corporation outside the Borough Boundary.

It will be seen from the above statement that 1,631 houses were erected within the County during 1932, as compared with 1,565 in 1931.

HOUSING ACT, 1930.

Section 34 (2) of the Housing Act, 1930, provides that where the Rural District Council claims that any of the houses proposed to be erected by the Council are required for the accommodation of the agricultural population of the District, the County Council shall determine how many such houses are so required, whereupon the County Council will be called upon to contribute at the rate of £1 per annum per house for a period of 40 years, following the completion of these houses. During the year under review applications were received in respect of 164 such houses. At the time of writing this Report these applications were under consideration.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS) ACT, 1926.

No applications for loans were received by the County Council under this Act during 1932

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

HOUSES.

Under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, Local Authorities are required to make provision for a thorough inspection of the houses in their district from time to time by their Medical Officer of Health or by an officer designated for the purpose, to ascertain the varying needs or circumstances of the dwelling houses. Records of these inspections must be kept, and the Medical Officer should include in his Annual Report particulars of results of the inspections.

During 1932, 5 Closing Orders and 92 Demolition Orders were made by the various Local Sanitary Authorities in respect of property in Bedfordshire.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

The workshops and workplaces within the County appear to be adequately inspected, and reasonably well maintained.

Occupiers of Factories and Workshops are required to keep lists of the names and addresses of persons employed by them to execute work at their own homes and to forward copies of such lists to the Local Authority in February and August of each year. This useful information is generally supplied fairly regularly.

SCHOOLS.

It appears that the sanitary condition of the schools has received due attention from the District Health Authorities. This supervision supplements in a valuable way the inspections made by the Council's Medical Officers.